

# THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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## ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

### MARTYRDOM.

THIS, which we have appointed to be the fable-word of our present article, is a venerable expression, fallen into disrepute although it may be, in these times of enlightenment. It is of foreign extraction, but we have naturalised it. It has upon its brow the deep furrows of old age. The people of yesterday—boys in the world's history, make game of it, as having outgrown its time. It will live notwithstanding. The world is not likely to see the back of it for some time. The thing which it means will probably exist for ages yet to come. There will always be some great, glorious, universal truth, for fashion to deride, and conceit to denounce, and bigotry to persecute—and there will always be men, we trust, of metal and stamp sufficiently noble, to step forth on its behalf, and, boldly avowing their belief in it and attachment to it, bid the whole host of gainsayers attack the truth in them. And this is martyrdom, in whatever age it may be found, with whatever weapon it may be assailed. He who, in the face of opposition, is true to truth, places himself between it and its foes, and says "Before you injure this, you must destroy me," is a martyr.

Every one at all conversant with the ways of men, must be aware that there is also a species of mock martyrdom—a mode of bearing witness to truth in which manner belies matter—whereby what is said and the way of saying it are completely at variance. Dissenters, for example, it is affirmed, bear a practical protest against a state-church, by the simple fact of dissenting therefrom. Conventionally, this is true. Really, it is by no means necessarily so—cannot be so, unless it be so generally understood. Now we have no hesitation whatever in asserting that neither is it viewed in that light by the great body of protesters, nor by the still greater body of those before whom the protest is made. In the language of mere criticism, it may be averred respecting them, that they bear witness to the exclusive spirituality of Christ's kingdom. Morally speaking, they do no such thing. The truth of a man's testimony consists not merely in the words which he may employ. They may be truly spoken, but not truthfully. Substantively considered, they may convey an accurate impression. Seen in the light of the man's tone, countenance, gestures, and whole demeanour, they may be the vehicle of a lie. For men may look falsehood whilst they speak truth. If, while the mass of nonconformists in this country profess abhorrence of any usurpation by men of the world of the throne which the Founder of Christianity claims as his exclusive right, they refuse to give solemn expression to the feeling—if,

"—they never tell their grief;  
But let concealment, like a worm i' th' bud,  
Prey on their damask cheeks"—

if they usually shirk the subject, just when they might have been expected to speak out most boldly—if, whenever there is opportunity, they are forward to fraternise with those holding opposite opinions on this matter—if, in a word, they look glum upon the most active and consistent advocates of the truth, and visit with severer censure the zeal, overstrained it may be thought, of those who espouse, than of those who contradict it—what becomes of their tacit protest? and in what sense can they be said to suffer martyrdom? How, under these circumstances, are they likely to be understood?

There is, we fear, about the position of dissenters at the present moment an air of equivocation, neither honourable to themselves nor becoming to the cause they represent. The objects they have pursued of late years have been so entirely matters of detail, so profound has been their silence respecting the great principle at issue between themselves and the abettors of an ecclesiastical establishment, as to have deceived many of their own supporters, and to have drawn forth from their reputed representative in parliament an assertion that they had no desire to see the principle realised. Hitherto, they have not succeeded in making either themselves or their cause intelligible to the community. As yet, men hardly know where to find them, and hesitate whether to assign earnest efforts for a separation of church and state to radicalism or to dissent—whether they spring from a political or a religious bias. We believe most men ascribe them to the former—inasmuch that smooth-spoken dissenters, who prove their charity by their utter indifference to principle, and who are more angry with those who choose to bear persecution than those who inflict it, are termed by way of eminence *religious* dissenters.

The truth is, there is no great body of men in this country whose governing principle is so little known and understood as that (if indeed they have one) of dissenters. We want a document similar in character to the famous protest of the reformers, or to the solemn league and covenant of the old Scotch presbyterians. Such a document, setting forth in brief but emphatic terms the evils, social, political, and religious, necessarily resulting from a

state-church—containing a solemn repudiation of the principle involved in a national establishment of Christianity—and formally denouncing it as unscriptural, impious, and consequently not to be countenanced, directly or indirectly, by men concerned for the advancement of true religion—such a document, sealed with the authority of the whole body of voluntaries, would be at once a bond of union to themselves and a faithful witness to the truth they have espoused. It would change the whole aspect of nonconformity. It would take it out of the region of uncertainty, and give to it a distinctness of features which, heretofore, it has wanted. It would be as a banner planted on the hill top—a rallying point about which our now scattered hosts might muster. It would be a noble testimony borne to truth—not more noble, however, than truth deserves. It might serve as a text book for every teacher of spiritual things. It might be read in our churches—studied by our children—commented upon in our colleges. It would speedily become "familiar as household words." Men's spirits would be fashioned by it—cast in the mould of it; and popular notions would gradually assimilate themselves to it. Why not? Such things have been before—and human nature has undergone no change. Why not? What "lion is in the way?" They who would command noble results must dare noble deeds. Pettifoggery and shuffling never yet did much to benefit this world of ours. Martyrdom has done more for it, a considerable deal.

Dissenters have it in their power effectually to serve a great and truly religious cause at a more trifling cost than ever fell to the lot of men in bygone times. What have they to give up in martyrdom? We really blush to write it, but it is so. They have merely to resign a habit of fiddle-faddle—to expose themselves to tea-table condemnation—to bear the half-unintelligible, half-canting lamentations over the growing political spirit of the age, of those who are entering upon the precincts of evangelical gentlemanliness. Their ministers must acquiesce in the loss of here and there a hearer, and tradesmen in that of here and there a customer. At first, society would wonder and stare, and for a year or two the advocates of truth might have to pass through a course of small persecution, a sort of "little go" of fiery trial; and then men's feelings would flow back into their accustomed channels, and active consistent voluntaries would be regarded with no more anger than are now silent and time-serving dissenters.

### OAK-APPLE DAY.

IN Madame Tussaud's collection of wax works there stands, just by the door on the right hand side a Chinese figure, whose head slowly turns from side to side, and whose eyes move with the utmost regularity within their sockets. The first effect produced upon the spectator, before time has been allowed to recover from his surprise, is the startling resemblance of the figure to life. We stand, however, gazing but a few moments; and seeing the same movement incessantly repeated with all the punctuality of clock work, we go round the room to gratify our curiosity with the sight of whatever else remains to be seen, and upon our return find the Chinaman still gravely wagging his head and rolling his little brown eyes. We revisit the place after an interval of twelve months accompanied by our friends. There stands the identical waxen image performing the same movements. One cannot but fancy that he has been at it ever since the last visit paid to the rooms—that he leans just as naturally early in the morning when nothing is in the chamber but dust, or late at night when nothing is to be seen but darkness; and turns his head round just as familiarly and life-like as he does when the rooms are filled with company, and all around him is splendour and gas light. Then the ridiculousness of the whole thing bursts upon our minds; and we cannot help fancying that this head is very much like the notable cork leg, and that even were its body wholly melted down it would still be locomotive, and would continue to roll its organs of vision.

"E'en in their ashes live their wonted fires."

This figure reminds us of the church of England. Her special devotional exercises are of the mechanical sort. Her praise is praise on wires. Once set a going it never stops. It is not method in madness, but madness in method. The restoration, for example, of that sprig of royalty, that licentious, perfidious, heartless specimen of humanity, Charles the Second, whose reign was inglorious without one redeeming event, and whose character was base without one redeeming feature, occasioned the insertion into the Book of Common Prayer of a form of service to be performed on the 29th of May—or, as it is termed by holiday folks, Oak-Apple day. For this event the members of the established church thus gave expression, near two centuries ago, to their feelings of joy—"We yield unto Thee our unfeigned thanks and praise, as for thy other great and public mercies, so especially for that signal and wonderful deliverance, by thy wise and good providence, as upon this day completed, and vouchsafed

to our then Most Gracious Sovereign, King Charles the Second, and all the Royal family (the Pretender, for example), and in them to this whole church and state, and all orders and degrees of men in both, from the unnatural rebellion, usurpation, and tyranny of ungodly and cruel men, and from the sad confusions and ruin thereupon ensuing." All this might strike one as peculiarly appropriate, when the nation was frantic with anticipatory joy; but after the expulsion of James the Second, brother of this gracious sovereign, and the introduction into office of the present reigning family, this devout gratitude seems somewhat out of place. In the present day, a single man in these realms who should be found thankful for the restoration of Charles the Second would be looked upon as a curiosity. We ourselves, did we know the whereabouts of such a specimen of the antique, should be strongly tempted to take coach upon our next publication day, and go in search of him. And yet, on Sunday last, after the reading of an act of parliament in all our churches, this great mockery was performed, and thanksgivings offered for the restoration of a prince, the expulsion of whose family from the throne of this kingdom is matter of gratulation to all.

This is one of the dire necessities of a state church. Not even the most unreasonable service, the most hypocritical mummery, can be set aside. What has been, must be. To sweep away rottenness would be change, and one change would open the door for others. Therefore, a whole nation must play the buffoon in the presence of the Most High, present prayers which have no meaning, and offer thanksgivings which represent no emotion of the heart, lest ecclesiastical reform, once begun, should go on, like the cork-leg above mentioned, until the church should be nowhere. These specimens of a national Christianity, are abundantly edifying. If gainsayers are not convinced, unquestionably they ought to be; more especially as her Majesty, the present head of the church, constitutionally declared her will and pleasure, that this form of prayer and service for the 29th of May, amongst others, should "be forthwith printed and published, and annexed to the Book of Common Prayer and liturgy of the united church of England and Ireland, to be used annually, on the said day, in all cathedral and collegiate churches and chapels, in all chapels of colleges and halls, within our universities of Oxford, Cambridge, and Dublin, and of our colleges of Eton and Winchester, and in all parishes, churches, and chapels, within those parts of our United Kingdom called England and Ireland." This order is dated 1837, and is signed by her Majesty's command, by that devoted friend of dissenters and of true religion, J. Russell. So that if there is no reason for the service, there is unquestionable authority.

On Thursday last, several of the leading reformers of Aston parish were served with citations from the ecclesiastical court, at the suit of the ex-churchwardens, Gough and Banks, for "subtraction of church rates." The cases, we hear, are in good hands, and probably the outgoing parish functionaries will not find their exit from the purlieus of "the cathedral church of Lichfield" quite so pleasant and easy a step as their entrance therein. Mr William Oliver, the new parish warden, on presenting himself to Mr Archdeacon Spooner, to be sworn into office, had his application declined, on the ground that the bishop was about to hold a visitation.—*Birmingham Journal*.

On Friday week, four seizures for church rates were made on the premises of Messrs E. Richards, W. Vaughan, R. Fuller, and M. Wilde, at Monmouth. This is one of the methods which the establishment uses for regaining to her pale the members of the dissenting community. The injustice of the tax is only equalled by the unchristian means used for its exaction.

A vestry meeting was held at All Saints' church, Maidstone, last week, for the purpose of considering the propriety of making a church rate. A very large number of the parishioners attended. The Rev. W. Vallance not being present at the appointed hour (he arrived during the meeting), the mayor was voted into the chair, and as the vestry room was not large enough to hold those present, the meeting was adjourned into the church. Mr J. Watts then moved a rate of threepence in the pound. Mr T. Potts seconded the motion. Mr Stephens moved an amendment, "That the application now made by the churchwardens for a rate of threepence in the pound be not granted." This was seconded by T. Smith, Esq., and supported in a very able speech by the Rev. H. Dobney, baptist minister. The Mayor then put the motion for the rate (the amendment was not put); and, on a division, there appeared at least five to four against the rate, and the Mayor decided that the rate was refused. Mr Watts then demanded a poll, and the tory party were so anxious to poll that they would not stop either to pass a vote of thanks to the Mayor, who acted most impartially, or to hear the announcement that the liberals had effected their object, and did not mean to poll a vote.

On Thursday the 19th ult., a meeting was held in the vestry of Peterborough church, for the purpose of laying a rate. The wardens gave notice that they would require a threepenny rate, but finding this would meet with a strong opposition, they gave way, and asked for a twopenny rate as usual, to which no opposition was made.

On Thursday last a vestry meeting was held at Kingston, Hants., to lay a church rate, the Vicar in the chair. The Chairman said it was eight or nine years since a rate had been granted, and as they only wanted a small one, he trusted it would not be opposed. Mr Sheppard requested the accounts, which the Chairman refused to produce, and Mr S. then entered his protest against the legality of the proceedings. Mr Minching, churchwarden, then read an estimate, and asked for a rate of 1d. in the pound. Mr Dart moved and Mr Sheppard seconded an amendment, "that no rate be granted, and that the meeting adjourn for twelve months." The Chairman positively refused to put the amendment, which caused great confusion and cries of "shame, shame." He then called for a show of hands from those who were for the church rate, when about 50 were held up. On the negative being put, upwards of 2,000 hands were held up against the rate. A poll was then demanded, and at the close on Friday evening, the

numbers were for the rate 393, against it 804, majority against the rate 411.

Messrs Pullen and Son announced in the daily papers of Monday last, that on Wednesday they would "sell by auction," at the auction mart, the "valuable advowson and next presentation to the important vicarage of Wandsworth," with a "capital residence, coach house, stabling, lawn, gardens, and pleasure grounds;" the "value of the living being about 900*l.* per annum," and the present incumbent, "upwards of 80 years of age!" A "considerable acquisition to the living" also existed in the vicar's privilege of appointing "a minister to the chapel of ease, the pew rents of which amount to nearly 300*l.* per annum." If this "great bargain" was not acceptable to traffickers in the established temple, the daily papers of the same day presented an alternative. Messrs Winstanley intimated a "sale by auction" of the "next presentation to the valuable consolidated rectories of Heydon and Chishall," which, among other recommendations, had the merit of possessing, in both parishes, only 420 souls, and "the duty single at each church." Such were the puffs preliminary of the rival auctioneers! and such is the church in whose support the goods of dissenters are seized by policemen, and their persons incarcerated in her Majesty's gaols!—*Aylesbury News*.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

"THE POWERS THAT BE;" OR, KINGCRAFT AND THE BIBLE.  
A few words on Romans xiii. 1—10.

LETTER I.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Stroud, May 13, 1842.

SIR—It has often appeared very strange that men of learning, taste, and piety, should pass such exaggerated encomiums on the authorised version of the scriptures. It is well known that in many parts very indecent language is used, that in several places the meaning of the sacred original is obscured, and that not a few popular errors have been fostered by injudicious words and phraseology. We grant that the English bible has its excellencies, but then these afford no reason why the present age should bear with its defects. It would have required nothing less than a miracle for the translators of king James to have produced a version fit for the present day. The age in which they lived was obscene and vulgar, and the men themselves were too deeply imbued with bigotry, sectarianism, prelatical and aristocratic pride, and too much under the influence of the court to allow them to give to the country a transparent view of the mind of the Holy Spirit. Besides, history, science, poetry, criticism, philology, &c., &c., were then in their infancy, and hence it is the height of folly, if not of wickedness, to applaud their work as a paragon of perfection. It would be easy, by adducing quotations, to justify all I have here said, but the facts are too well known to need confirmation, and therefore I shall at once turn to the subject of this letter. Perhaps there was no vice more prevalent among protestants, when the version in question was made, than the worship of "the powers that be." Many of the reformers were contaminated with it, and it formed the plague spot of the reformation. It is a query whether the sensual and imbecile James had wit enough, though the reputed Solomon of his age, to invent the kingcraft dogmas of his time. The nobility and the clergy, but especially the latter, flattered him into those haughty and blasphemous opinions which were the ruin of his family, and since then have proved fatal to many a monarch and many a kingdom. Now it was by men of this stamp that Romans xiii. was translated, and no impression ever more answered to its type than does the English version of the chapter before us to the principles of the men by whom it was made. It is not God, but the flatterers of James, that speak to us in this important portion of holy writ, and their mistranslation has misled our rulers, and very nearly brought the country to ruin. Their notions respecting the divine origin of kings, has greatly repressed the spirit of reform, especially in pious minds. There are thousands at this day who believe that any opposition to "the powers that be," though conducted in a Christian spirit, would most certainly incur the displeasure of heaven. I hope, in some future letter, to show that none but persons deeply imbued with the principles of the gospel are qualified to engage in the political reformation of the world, and to prove from the scriptures that God has predestined them and called upon them in his word to undertake this work. Those who neglect this duty are living in open violation of some of the plainest injunctions of the scriptures, and therefore it is necessary that their minds should be delivered from those slavish fears which, in our day, are the cause of so much disobedience to God and mischief to man. It is an old trick of the wicked one to clothe iniquity in holy garments, and to introduce it into the sanctuary, that the dread of the holy place may deter devout persons from destroying the monster who is lurking there. Among pagans, the temples of the gods were always the last resort and refuge for thieves, murderers, and the enemies of mankind. In the chapter before us, "the powers that be" are represented as "ordained of God;" and in accordance with the interpretation usually given to these words, all who oppose their will or seek their reformation have been branded as heretics and unbelievers. The bare accident of wearing a crown has elevated its possessor into a sacred personage, whose wishes none could oppose without being charged with treason against the "King of kings." In mental power, the monarch may have been hardly one remove from idiocy; in sensuality, he may have been many degrees below "the beasts that perish;" and in moral principle may have been worse than a demon; and yet common sense, reason, and religion, have been outraged by being called upon to revere him as "the Lord's anointed." Is it any wonder that we have infidels in the land? The belief that the bible teaches such iniquity and blasphemy is sufficient to shake the faith of a saint in the inspiration of the scriptures. The unbelief of the country is chargeable upon the church, and nothing has had a greater tendency to foster scepticism, than the infamous doctrines respecting the divine right of civil rulers which have been promulgated as the verities of revelation.

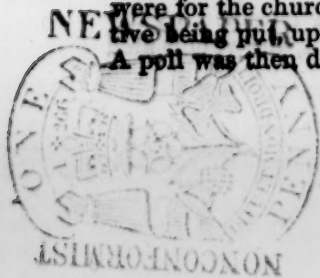
But without further preface I will give, what appears to me to be a literal translation of this sacred portion of holy writ:—

Romans xiii. 1—10.

"Let every soul be subject to supreme authorities; for there is no authority except from God; and those which are authorities, have been determined by God; so that he who opposeth this authority opposeth an institution of God; and they who oppose receive in themselves, condemnation."

"For these rulers are not the terror of good works but of evil. Would'st thou feel no alarm at this authority? Do good, and thou shalt have praise of the same. For God's minister is thine for good, but if thou doest evil be afraid, for he beareth not the sword in vain. For God's minister is righteous in the punishment of him that doeth evil. Wherefore it is necessary to be obedient, not only on account of wrath, but also for conscience sake."

"For this cause pay ye tribute also, for God's servants attend carefully to this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues, tribute to whom



tribute is due, custom to whom custom (is due), reverence to whom reverence (is due), honour to whom honour (is due).

"Owe no man anything except love to one another; for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. For this (precept), 'thou shalt not commit adultery;' 'thou shalt not kill;' 'thou shalt not plunder;' 'thou shalt not bear false witness;' 'thou shalt not covet,' or if there is any other commandment, it is fully comprehended in this sentence, 'thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.' Love worketh no ill to a neighbour, therefore love is the perfection of law."

In offering a few words on this translation, I shall endeavour to show, 1. That the passage speaks of authority rather than power. 2. That this authority is from God. 3. That it is prescribed or determined by him in his word, and is therefore supreme. 4. That resistance to it is sin and contrary to the dictates of conscience. 5. That rulers exercising this authority are not a terror to good works but to evil. 6. They praise good works. 7. They are God's ministers for our good. 8. They are invested with a sword. 9. Are righteous in wrath or punishment. 10. Our obedience to such authorities should be conscientious. 11. God's servants support these authorities with tribute, &c. 12. That we are not commanded to pay tribute, &c., unless the tribute, &c., are due. 13. That love is the fulfilment of all law, and 14. That love is the perfection or fullness of all law.

I believe, Mr Editor, that few persons who can read the Greek testament will doubt the general correctness of the translation I have given, at any rate I hope to be able to satisfy their scruples before I have done. It must be clear to all who examine these texts, that the authority which it so nicely defines was not exercised by any of the monarchs of the days of the apostle, or even in the present day. The passage does not tell rulers what they are, as kings, or legislators, but what they ought to be and must be, before they can lay claim to any authority from heaven, or demand the implicit obedience and support of their subjects. In a word, we have here a model of righteous government and rational obedience prescribed by the King of kings. But that this letter may not be too long, and trusting that you will give me a corner in your next number to pursue this subject, I will now conclude, and remain yours, &c.,

B. PARSONS.

## IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## PETITIONS FOR THE WEEK.

Cattle, meat, &c., against importation of, 2.	Maynooth college, for inquiry into, 9.
Church Patronage (Scotland) for abolition of, 1.	Property tax, against, 2.
Corn laws, for repeal of, 7.	Poor Law Amendment act, for repeal of, 19.
Education (Ireland) for alteration of system, 4.	Railways, against use of on the Lord's day, 23.
Factories, for limiting the hours of labour in, 3.	Roman catholics, for equal civil rights, 11.
Hill Coolies, against importation of, 4.	Timber duties, against alteration, 3.
	Union with Ireland, for repeal of, 2.

## PUBLIC BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

## BILLS PRESENTED, AND READ A FIRST TIME.

1. Newfoundland bill. 2. New South Wales bill.

## BILL READ A SECOND TIME.

Witnesses Indemnity bill.

## CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

Customs acts.

## BILLS READ A THIRD TIME, AND PASSED.

Incumbents Leasing (No. 2) bill.

## DEBATES.

Wednesday, May 25.

## THE TARIFF.

The committee on the tariff was resumed, and the entire evening was occupied in its discussion. The first point worth notice was the duties on butter and cheese. The chief argument urged for the retention of these duties by Mr GLADSTONE and the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER was the amount of revenue which they produced, 400,000*l.* annually. Lord HOWICK contended that the reduction on Canadian butter and cheese would injure the revenue without benefiting the consumer; and he moved that the duty on foreign butter should be reduced from 1*l.* to 10*s.*, leaving a difference of 5*s.* in favour of the Canadian butter. On this a discussion arose, and then a division, when the amendment was negatived by 115 to 59.

Another discussion arose on the duty on cheese, and a division took place on a motion of Sir J. GUEST to reduce the duty to 5*s.*, which was defeated by 82 to 37.

Discussion again took place on the duty of 2*d.* per cwt. on potatoes, and an amendment was proposed of 1*s.* per cwt., which, however, was ultimately withdrawn.

On arriving at the schedule containing ores and metals, Sir CHARLES LEMON requested its postponement for a few days, to which Sir ROBERT PEEL could not agree, as there would be an opportunity of making any changes that might be considered necessary in the bill itself. Mr TURNER then proposed an amendment on the duties on copper ore, expressing his fears for the fate of the county of Cornwall, should the government proposition be carried into effect. Mr GLADSTONE did not think that it was expedient to adopt the amendment, and after a short discussion it was negatived by 168 to 7.

The CHAIRMAN then reported progress, and the committee adjourned.

Thursday, May 26.

## BRIBERY AT ELECTIONS—IPSWICH.

Mr WYNN brought forward his motion for a direction to the Attorney-general to prosecute such persons as shall appear to him to have been guilty of bribery at the last election for Ipswich.

Sir THOMAS WILDE reluctantly opposed the motion. It would be infinitely preferable to introduce a general measure for the suppression of bribery than to select individuals for punishment in one or two isolated cases. The sympathy manifested by the House towards individuals brought before it on charges connected with inquiries into bribery, was also a strong reason for not proceeding against individuals in a way which might appear merely vindictive.

Sir W. FOLLETT and Lord J. RUSSELL also opposed the motion.

A discussion then arose on the conduct of the House in reference to the case of Mabson, committed by the Southampton committee, in which Mr THESIGER, Sir C. NAPIER, Sir F. POLLOCK, and Mr DUNCOMBE took part, after which

Mr O'CONNELL called on the Attorney-General to bring in, on the part of the government, a bill of indemnity for witnesses, by which all bribery cases could be probed to the bottom, and the wealthy bribers be reached. If this were not done the country would give no credit to any expression of anxiety to put down bribery.

Sir ROBERT PEEL said, by all means punish the bribers, but do not set up the dangerous precedent of screening the bribed. Confessing the difficulty of the case, he thought it best, on the whole, not to direct a prosecution in the present instance, though he came to this conclusion with reluctance. From an inspection of the Ipswich and Southampton reports, he could not draw any unfavourable conclusions against the tribunal constituted by the House for the trial of controverted elections.

After a few remarks from Mr HUME, Mr ESCOTT, Mr BERNAL, Mr WAKLEY, and others, Mr WYNN withdrew his motion.

Colonel RUSHBROOKE then moved the issue of a new writ for Ipswich.

Mr HUME objected to the motion, and hoped that the writ would be suspended for a month, pending the proposed inquiries.

Sir ROBERT PEEL did not see sufficient grounds for the suspension of the writ.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL said that the power of suspending a writ, on the ground of bribery and corruption, had been repeatedly exercised since the time of the revolution; and though he should use the power with reluctance, yet there were cases in which it was advisable to do so.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER considered that, seeing Mr WYNN's motion was withdrawn by the universal consent of the House, there were no grounds for the further suspension of the writ.

Mr O'CONNELL would move for a committee of inquiry into the bribery at Ipswich, if the writ were suspended.

The debate then waxed somewhat warm, and numerous short speeches were made on both sides. Mr C. BULLER, Mr WAKLEY, Mr AGLIONBY, Mr ROEBUCK, Mr HAWES, and Sir THOMAS WILD, addressed the House against the issue of the writ; and Sir R. H. INGLIS, Lord STANLEY, Mr H. HINDE, and others in favour of it. On a division there appeared, for the issue of the writ, 126; for its suspension for a month, 107.

Mr O'CONNELL then moved, as an amendment on the motion for the issue of the writ, that a select committee of inquiry be appointed to inquire into the extent of bribery at the last Ipswich election.

Another discussion arose, Lord SEYMOUR appealing to the government, that, from a sense of consistency and character, it would not oppose the motion. Sir R. H. INGLIS and Mr CHARLES WOOD addressed the House, after which

Sir ROBERT PEEL, disclaiming all feeling of participation in any sympathy for corrupt proceedings, begged the House to beware how it interfered with rights of constituents, as there might be no limit to the extent to which a majority might be disposed to go.

After some remarks from Captain BERKELEY, another division took place, when there appeared—for the issue of the writ, 133; for the committee of inquiry, 119; majority, 14.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the House adjourned.

Friday, May 27.

## THE TARIFF.

The House resumed the business of the tariff in committee. On the question as to the duty to be levied from train and spermaceti oil, blubber, and whale fins, Mr LYALL moved to postpone these imposts from the dates proposed to certain periods of the years 1843 and 1844 respectively. He was supported by Mr G. PALMER, Mr HAWES, and Mr CHAPMAN, upon grounds peculiar to the oil trade, and to the adventurers in the whale fishery, who had gone out without notice of the proposed reduction; and Sir C. NAPIER concurred in the motion. Sir R. PEEL and Mr GLADSTONE, resisted the extension of time, mainly on account of the very high prices incident to this trade. Lord JOHN RUSSELL and Mr C. BULLER argued for the extension of the time, on the ground that if the tariff was properly adjusted in allowing any extension at all, it ought to allow such an extension as would do complete justice to all the persons engaged in the now pending voyages. Captain FITZROY doubted the conclusion drawn from the comparison of the years 1840 and 1841; and expressed his disapprobation of many provisions in our navigation laws. The committee, on a division, decided against the extension.

On the schedule relating to timber, Mr HAWES and other members objected, not to the duties, but to the system of measurement on which it is proposed to levy them; which system Mr GLADSTONE and Sir R. PEEL defended on the authority of practical men. Mr CHAPMAN remonstrated against the main principle of the proposed reductions on timber. Mr HUME recommended it to government to make the reductions at once, instead of postponing them to October; for, as carpenters and others who had no stock of wood in hand must postpone their purchases of that article until after the reduction, it was plain that in the interval there would be no employment for the workmen. This suggestion was resisted by other members on behalf of the numerous parties at present possessing stock; and Sir R. PEEL was of opinion that justice to those parties precluded him from altering the course which he had announced, and on the faith whereof they had been acting. The mode of measurement, however, was a subject which he would reconsider, though not at present inclined to alter the view he had already taken of it. The committee then adjourned, and the House resumed.

## BRIDPORT ELECTION.

Mr CHARLES BULLER brought on his motion to call the attention of the house to the petition of Mr Warburton, and to move for an inquiry into certain corrupt compromises alleged to have taken place, in order to avoid investigation into gross bribery practised at the last Bridport election. His motion also included the proposition, to refer the inquiry to the committee already appointed to inquire into the cases of Nottingham, Harwich, Lewes, Penryn, and Reading. The facts stated in Mr Warburton's petition implicating Mr Mitchell in systematic bribery, furnished a much stronger case for inquiry than any of those which Mr Roebuck had brought under the attention of the House. Besides the compromise of the seat, it was affirmed that no less than fifty-one actions for bribery had been compromised, the penalties in which would have amounted to £25,000. The petition also charged Mr Cochrane with a breach of faith in abandoning his petition against Mr Mitchell.

Mr COCHRANE entered into the details of his case, and addressed the House at considerable length. He read the correspondence which had taken place between himself and Mr Warburton, which went to show that a compromise to which all parties were privy had taken place.

He considered he had just ground to complain of Mr Warburton's present course. He was followed by

Mr MITCHELL, who made a statement of his own case, controverting much of Mr Warburton's petition, and throwing censure on his conduct. He distinguished this case from the cases referred to Mr Roebuck's committee. In each of those instances one of the sitting members had made a tacit admission of guilt by retiring; but he had not retired; he had stood his ground, and kept it. And as to the actions against him for bribery, they had been brought, he believed, for the purpose of frightening him, and had been abandoned because it was felt that they could not be maintained.

Sir THOMAS WILDE thought that the two members for Bridport had made statements amply warranting the House to refer the petition to the committee of inquiry. As a friend of Mr Warburton, he vindicated his conduct and character, which challenged inquiry; and reviewing the statements of the two members, he stated that there was now a criminal information pending against Mr Cochrane for personal bribery and corruption, whilst Mr Mitchell's conduct, in effecting a compromise between himself and his colleague, was open to grave imputation.

After some observations from Sir JOHN WALSH and Mr ESCOTT,

Sir ROBERT PEEL admitted that there were as good grounds for inquiry in the present case as in those which had been referred to a committee. But he was afraid that if the committee were to inquire into bribery as well as compromises, it had undertaken a task which it would not be able to undertake in the present session of parliament. He recommended to Lord John Russell to introduce a provision in his intended bill, which would provide for dealing with these cases of compromise in future.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL thought there was less occasion for referring this case to a committee than the others, because the House was already in possession of the facts. But, in order to have a permanent record of the proceedings, he would support the motion.

Sir R. H. INGLIS opposed the motion. The House deceived itself, if, in a fit of virtuous indignation, it supposed it could cure bribery and corruption by proceedings which he considered to be irregular, and likely to be ineffective.

Lord PALMERSTON pointed out, that under the law for the trial of controverted elections, there was a penalty hanging over the head of any member who vexatiously defended a seat, and that therefore compromises under that law were not held to be so criminal as commonly assumed. He himself thought that the law should be altered; and as bribery was unfortunately too common a practice, he would prefer that the House should provide for the future, instead of dealing with the past.

Lord STANLEY, thought that a committee of inquiry would provide materials for future legislation, and that the case of Bridport should not be passed over. He agreed to an inquiry, but reserved his opinion as to whether or not the inquiry should be referred to Mr Roebuck's committee.

After some further debate, the House divided on the motion, that an inquiry do take place, when there appeared 156 for the inquiry, and 37 against it.

The consideration of Mr C. BULLER's second motion, for referring the inquiry to Mr Roebuck's committee, was then adjourned till this evening.

Monday, May 30.

Mr T. DUNCOMBE presented a petition from John Wrenn of Southampton, offering to make certain disclosures relating to the bribery practised at the last and preceding elections, if he were protected by indemnity. He moved that the petition be printed with the votes.

Mr MACKINNON opposed the motion, and a short debate ensued upon the subject, which ended in the motion being agreed to.

#### INCOME TAX.

Sir R. PEEL moved the third reading of the Property Tax bill.

Mr SHARMAN CRAWFORD moved as an amendment—

"That, as by the existing laws a large proportion of the people of this realm are excluded from voting for members of parliament; and as it also appears, by the reports of different election committees, that corrupt practices have been used to an extraordinary extent in procuring the return of members to this present House of Commons; and as, from both these causes, this House cannot be considered a fair representation of the people; it is therefore unfit that any system of increased taxation should be imposed by parliament until all just causes of complaint, with regard to the mode of electing the members of this House, shall be first redressed."

He denied that there was under the present system any virtual representation of the people. The average of the voters in the United Kingdom was only as one in forty-two of the population; and of the members returned by this limited constituency, very few were returned by the freely expressed opinion of the electors. By disclosures since the Reform act, upwards of forty towns were tainted with bribery.

He believed this would be a list of places in which bribery has been proved since the Reform bill, and reported by the committees:—Hertford, Carrickfergus, Newry, Derry, Warwick, Ipswich (twice), Evesham, Newcastle-under-Lyne (twice), Ludlow, Cambridge, St Albans, Walsall (treating), Sudbury, Southampton. Cases in which compromises have been made to avoid exposure:—In 1837, Bridgnorth, Norwich, Yarmouth; in 1842, Bridport, Nottingham, Lewes, Reading, Harwich, Penryn; in 1841, Canterbury. Cases in which bribery was proved before the general committee of bribery at elections:—Maldon, Cambridge, Norwich, Leominster, Hereford. Special committees have sat and reported on the bribery at Yarmouth and York. Gross bribery has been proved to exist in London, Hull, Liverpool; and places where the bribery is notorious, Pontefract, Beverley, Berwick, Stafford, Maidstone, Bridgewater. Boroughs in which petitions remain still to be tried, in which bribery is charged:—Belfast, Barnstaple, Sunderland.

He argued that it was on account of the state of the representation that the nation had been engaged in the present disgraceful wars, which were condemned by the generally expressed feeling of the enlightened public. The remedy for these evils and for the distress now existing in the manufacturing districts, was to be found in the extension of the suffrage, the division of the country into electoral districts, the ballot, and the shortening the duration of parliament.

Mr O'CONNELL seconded the motion.

Sir ROBERT PEEL thought that if the House of Commons, as at present constituted, was disqualified from increasing taxation, neither could it undertake the reform of the tariff, or even reform itself. He would rather have met the motion as a substantive one, on a more suitable occasion.

After a few observations from Mr O'CONNELL, Mr HUME, and Lord JOHN MANNERS,

Lord JOHN RUSSELL intimated, that though he could not vote for Mr S. Crawford's amendment, he would take the sense of the House on the third reading of the Income Tax bill.

On a division there appeared 21 for the amendment and 156 against it.

Mr BARING was proceeding to bring forward his amendment on the third reading of the Income Tax bill, when the tidings reached the House of the attempt which had just been made against the life of her Majesty; and Sir R. PEEL interposed, and recommended that the House should immediately adjourn, which was at once agreed to.

#### HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Thursday evening the LORD CHANCELLOR moved that the House should resolve itself into a committee on the Copyright bill. Understanding that powerful opposition was about to be offered to the bill, he considered it to be necessary to enter into a history of the law of copyright.

Lord BROUGHAM opposed the measure on several grounds, one of which was that it contained an objectionable retrospective clause. The extension of the period of copyright would be of no use to authors, for booksellers would not give more for a copyright of forty-two years than for one of twenty-eight. He had obtained a calculation of the comparative value of copyrights for each period, supposing each yielded an annual profit of £100, and he found that the copyright of twenty-eight years would be worth £730, and that for forty-two years only £781. Even this small difference in value would not reach the authors from the booksellers. While, therefore, no benefit would accrue to authors, much disadvantage would result to the public, by keeping up the prices of valuable works, and keeping them out of the hands of the people.

Lord LYTTELTON said, that the arguments of Lord Brougham, however cogent as to authors who sold their works, did not apply to those who retained their copyrights.

The Bishop of LONDON supported the bill. There were many cases in which works were gradually rising in their marketable value, and would be most valuable about the time that the copyright would expire under the present law. In such circumstances, the advantage that should belong to the author's family was frequently appropriated by a speculative bookseller.

Lord COTTENHAM thought that the bill should not be argued on the ground of justice or injustice to authors, but on the ground of public interest. He concurred in the general objects of the bill, but he considered its retrospective clause to be adverse to the public advantage.

Lord CAMPBELL also supported the bill; which was carried through committee *pro forma*, the discussion to be taken on bringing up the report.

On Monday evening the Earl of GLENGALL, in moving for returns respecting the number of rewards offered by the Irish government for the detection of offenders, commented on the statements which were made by Lord Wharncliffe on Friday, with respect to the condition of the county of Tipperary, and the influence of the catholic clergy. He also defended the conduct of the landlords, and blamed the younger portion of the catholic priests, whom he considered as largely implicated in exciting and perpetuating that contempt for social order which led to these outrages. Lord WHARNCLIFFE briefly defended his observations. Earl FORTESCUE defended the catholic clergy of Ireland as being, on the whole, a most exemplary body, from whom he had received, while at the head of the Irish government, most efficient assistance in the suppression of crime. A short debate ensued, after which the motion was agreed to.

#### GENERAL POLITICS.

##### FOREIGN.

##### FRANCE.

The business in the Chamber of Deputies has been rather more varied than of late. On the supply for the government at Algiers being moved on Friday, M. Manuel called the attention of the government to the executions which had taken place in the province of Constantine, without even the form of a trial. Marshal Soult said he had some difficulty in replying to these interpellations, inasmuch as atrocious and unjustifiable executions had taken place in the province of Constantine, but that he feared the moral effect which an ill-timed discussion might produce on the population in Algeria. He added, that General Negrier, who ordered those executions, had acted with good faith, and as he had rendered such important services to the country during his administration, he (Marshal Soult) could not resolve on recommending the King to remove him from his command. On a vote of 20,000,000*f.* being moved for the fortifications of Paris, M. de Lherbette proposed the following resolution:—"That the fortifications of Paris are not to be mounted with artillery, except in cases of invasion, or a war on the frontiers. That the forts, with the exception of those of Mont Valerin, St Dennis, Rosny, Nogent, Charenton, are not to be closed at the gorge, except with a palisade." M. Odillon Barrot supported the resolution. Marshal Soult assured M. Barrot that the resolution was unnecessary, as the government could not arm the fortifications without applying to the Chamber for funds to procure cannon, of which it would require 1,800 pieces to arm the fortifications with half the necessary compliment of guns. The resolution was rejected without a division. The supply for the navy having been moved, M. Ducos called the attention of the House to the state of the navy, which last year consisted of 225 ships, of which there were 20 sail of the line and 35 steam boats, manned by an effective force of 45,474 seamen; whilst this year a supply was asked for only 158 ships, of which 140 only are completely armed, four laid up in ordinary, and 14 merely commissioned with 28,230 seamen. The hon. member proposed that eight ships of war, ten frigates, and three steam boats, which were laid up in port should be placed on the roads, which would only cost 2,278,360*f.* more than the sum demanded. He hoped that for so trifling a saving the fine fleet which was the pride of France, and the terror of foreigners, should not be destroyed.

The *Journal des Debats* observes, that the result of Mr Miles's amendment to Sir Robert Peel's tariff was anticipated. "It was a mere satisfaction given by the representatives of counties to their constituents, but it is always unpleasant for a ministry to see its majority broken on a special question, and to be obliged to reckon on the support of the opposition."

Among the clergymen lately ordained in St Sulpice, was a young

man of colour, M. Joseph Marie Billemont, born at Martinique, and a student of the seminary of St Esprit. A young girl of colour, named Victorine Seba, born at Guadaloupe, and 21 years of age, took the veil a few days ago, in the convent of the Augustinian nuns, in Rue de la Santé. "We are happy," says the *Univers*, "to record these facts, which daily become more frequent, and constitute the putting into practice of the dogma of equality among men in the eyes of God. This dogma, which in preserving civil equality banished slavery from Europe, will likewise banish it from America. Whenever the blacks shall have black clergymen among them, the last hour of slavery will have arrived in America."

## SPAIN.

Madrid letters of the 21st ult. state that on that day M. Torrento called on the President of the Council to give the Chamber some account of the situation of the island of Cuba, and proceeded to state that the unsettled condition of that colony was to be ascribed to the manoeuvres of British diplomacy, which was labouring to effect the emancipation of the blacks, in order to wrest that valuable island from Spain. "The British consul, Mr Turnbull," added M. Torrento, "has been superseded in his post; nevertheless, he has continued to reside in the island as the protector of the negroes, whom he excites to revolt against their masters. He has sent emissaries in every direction to preach insurrection, and thus keeps the colonists in constant alarm." The President of the Council said that the Spanish government, after obtaining the recall of Mr Turnbull, having ascertained that he had not left the island, but remained there as the protector of the blacks, had notified to the English cabinet that Spain could not recognise him in that capacity, and that if he did not retire with good grace he should be embarked by force. The minister, however, expressed a conviction that there would be no occasion to resort to this extremity, and added that the authorities of Cuba possessed ample means of protecting the rights of the colonists. The Senate adopted, on the 21st, the 160,000,000 Loan bill, by a majority of 78 against 2. Messrs Campuzano and Calatrava voted against it.

It had been reported that the house of Safont had suspended its payments, but it turns out that the rumour was totally unfounded. It originated in some administrative measures lately adopted by the government relative to the payment of the tolls, which are farmed by M. Safont.

## PORTUGAL.

Lisbon news to the 23rd ult. was brought by the Lady Mary Wood contract steamer. Another hitch had arisen in the negociation of the English treaties. The Duke of Palmella was ready to sign both the slave trade and the commercial treaty, but difficulties had been raised in the council of state against each of them, and another reference to Lord Aberdeen would be the result. There appears to be some intrigue at the bottom of all this, and it was doubted whether the Duke of Palmella would not throw up his commission in this case. A petition had been presented from Oporto, signed by thirty firms of cloth dealers, in favour of the treaty with England, and complaining of the present high duties as only promoting the introduction of Spanish woollens into Portugal, into which they are now smuggled to a large extent.

The Prince Frederick of Hesse had arrived at Lisbon with a Danish frigate and corvette, and was about to proceed with the King and Queen on a visit to Curtha and Mafra, and after spending a few days in Lisbon, would proceed to the coast of Italy.

The difficulties now started against the commercial treaty were said to refer to the Maneio tax, which the Duke of Palmella had consented to be levied by a mixed commission; in the case of the slave treaty, the promulgation of a decree by the Portuguese government, declaring slave trade piracy, was believed to be the ground of opposition in the council of state. In both cases the Duke of Palmella had met the views of the British government, but his concessions had been overruled in the council of state.

## AMERICA.

The Caledonia, British and North American mail steamer, arrived off Holyhead on Saturday night, in ten days. She brings news from New York to the 14th, Boston to the 16th, and Halifax 18th of May, all inclusive. Mr Daniel Webster had addressed letters to the Governor of the states of Maine and Massachusetts relative to the Boundary question, and recommends that they should each appoint a commissioner to confer with the general government upon the proposals understood to have been made by Lord Ashburton. The Governor of Massachusetts intimated in reply, that the executive of the state was fully authorised to negotiate by the resolution of the legislature, and Governor Fairfield, of Maine, had issued a proclamation calling a special session, to commence on the 18th. Lord Ashburton was very popular at Washington; a great disposition to render the object of his visit available to a settlement of all differences was increasing. The Secretary of State had addressed a letter to the House of Representatives, with a bill to provide a revenue from imported duties. The matter of the right of search has called forth a letter from Mr Cushing, an eminent member of the legislature, which has been published in the French paper *Le Courier des Etats Unis*, in New York, in which he urges that the interference of France is called for in the matter. In the *New York Herald* a statement is made on the authority of a credible and authentic correspondent from Mexico, received by the West India steamer at New York from Havana, that Santa Anna had procured a loan of three millions sterling from Great Britain, negotiated in London for fourteen years, without annual interest, but at the termination of which period the holders would receive at the rate of £140 for every £100 advanced. The agents of the transaction are stated to be Messrs James Morrison and Co., of London. The British government, it is said, guarantee the repayment of said loan, and in return, the manufactures of Great Britain are to be admitted into Vera Cruz, and the other Mexican ports, at a nominal duty. With this loan Mexico would be enabled to recommence warlike steps against Texas, in which she would obtain the assistance of British steamers, ships, guns, and munitions of war, besides officers, of whom they are sadly deficient.

The Philadelphia correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle* writes under date of the 14th, that—

"A letter from Mr Webster, secretary of State, to the Governors of Massachusetts and Maine, has just been published, on the subject of the disputed boundary line. The

Secretary states that Lord Ashburton has power to treat for a conventional or compromise line, with such terms or equivalents as may be deemed just; and that, therefore, the United States government is anxious to consult the States in question; and the President proposes that Maine and Massachusetts should appoint commissioners to confer on the subject with the United States government, and that no such line is to be agreed to without the assent of such commissioners. It may be as well here to mention that, according to the constitution, the result of the boundary negotiation must be submitted to the United States senate for confirmation. The legislature of Massachusetts has already authorised the Governor of that State to do all that is necessary. He will, therefore, in all probability, appoint a commissioner or commissioners immediately, and the Governor of Maine has convened his legislature for the 18th instant. I take pleasure in assuring you, most positively, that public feeling here, at the present time, is entirely in favour of an amicable adjustment."

At New York the business generally is reported to be steady, with but little of a speculative character doing. The cotton and corn crops would, it is said, be abundant.

The Rev. Dr Channing, of Boston, has added to his well-earned fame, by publishing a powerful argument against the claim preferred by the American government upon the English, for compensation for the slaves liberated in our port of Nassau. He most eloquently denounces the guilt of his countrymen in perpetuating slavery, and exposes the shame and scandal of maintaining it in a country that boasts of its superior freedom.

## THE EAST.

A Levant mail has arrived since our last, but brings little news. Sir Baldwin Walker received a few days ago an appropriate sword from the Vizier, coupled with an assurance that the former one had been sent entirely through mistake. The arrest of the Druse chieftains, who are expected at Constantinople to be detained as hostages for the good conduct and submission of their kinsmen, is said to have produced good effects upon the Christian population, and to offer a prospect of the Sultan's authority being more firmly established in the Lebanon. The misunderstanding between Sir S. Canning and the first dragoman is said to have been arranged.

Intelligence of an undoubted character from Syria announces the arrival of an Egyptian frigate and corvette off Beyrout, with Egyptian troops; and the same authority asserts that Suleiman Pasha will very shortly arrive from Alexandria with an additional reinforcement of four regiments (16,600 men), the greater portion of whom are already en route. This force is intended to co-operate with the Turks in the complete disarmament of the Lebanon.

The Pasha arrived at Alexandria on the morning of the first ult. It was well understood before his arrival that he would not long be here before the Augean grain stores were thoroughly cleaned out, and for this the public has not had long to wait. The Pasha had hardly arrived ere the palace was thronged with merchants.

A letter from Constantinople, May 7, says:—"Riza Pacha, grand marshal of the palace, a decided enemy of all reform, has had such a severe attack of a pulmonary nature, that his medical attendants entertain but faint hopes of his recovery. The Grand Vizier is obliged to keep his bed from a wound in his thigh, which has opened afresh, and which may render amputation of the limb necessary."

## DOMESTIC.

## METROPOLITAN.

The annual meeting of the National Society for the Education of the Poor was held on Wednesday last, at the Central School rooms, Sanctuary, Westminster. The Archbishop of Canterbury occupied the chair; and on the platform were the Bishops of London, Winchester, Chester, Salisbury, Worcester, and Bangor, the Dean of Salisbury, Archdeacon Wilberforce, Archdeacon Manning, Lord Sandon, and several dignitaries of the church. The children of the Central School underwent an examination by the Bishop of London, in scripture history, the tenets of the church, grammar, English history, geography, the elements of vocal music, &c. The report was then read, and detailed the operations of the society, with increasing success, for thirty years. A committee, appointed at a meeting in Willis's rooms in 1839, have collected annually subscriptions to the amount of £1,400 to £6,000. The report was adopted, and a series of resolutions were passed to further the objects of the society.

The Lord Mayor gave a grand banquet in the Egyptian hall at the the Mansion house, on Friday, to the dignitaries of the church, after the one hundred and forty-first anniversary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, held by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the other prelates, at the cathedral of St Paul's. The company was much more numerous than is usually invited.

A court of common council was held on Thursday last. It was stated by Alderman Wilson, that one of the candidates for the office of town-clerk, Mr Pearson, had withdrawn from the contest, on account of a compromise with the friends of Sergeant Merewether, and the Alderman moved a resolution, declaring the proceeding a breach of the privilege of the court, and referring it to a special committee for investigation. The motion was adopted by 61 to 49. Upon the motion of Mr Wire, the sum of £500 was voted for the relief of the sufferers in Hamburgh. Mr R. L. Jones, who supported that motion, gave notice of another for voting £500 to the poor manufacturers of the metropolis.

At the Secondaries court, on Friday last, the case of Lawes and Barber v. Shaw, respecting the defalcation of Mr Clark, an official assignee under the court of Bankruptcy, was heard before Mr Secondary James and a special jury. Mr Platt with Mr Watson appeared for the plaintiffs, Mr Sergeant Shea with Mr Humsfrey for the defendant. Mr Platt said, that on the establishment of the court of Bankruptcy, it was deemed advisable that official assignees should be appointed for the collection and distribution of the assets of bankrupt estates, and that they should give security to the amount of £6,000. That security was from six different persons, each of them joining in a bond to the amount of £6,000, but that bond was so drawn as to limit the responsibility of each of the securities to one-sixth of that amount. Mr Clark, in the month of January, 1832, became an official assignee, and on that occasion six persons were his sureties. The defendant was one of them. Mr Clark, in the course of his duties, was appointed official assignee to a great number of estates, in consequence of which a large sum of money passed through his hands. From time to time audits of his accounts were made, and it was supposed that Mr Clark

was proceeding in a regular and proper manner, till, on the 12th of April, 1841, a letter was sent by him to Sir C. F. Williams, the commissioner under whom he was acting, intimating his resignation, and sending, in compliance with the request of the Court, the names of his several sureties. It then appeared on examination that Mr Clark had been irregular in the performance of his duties as official assignee; that, instead of paying over the monies he was bound to pay to the account of the Accountant General in Bankruptcy, he had retained in his hands various large sums of money, and was at the time he sent the letter with his resignation a defaulter in no less a sum than £8,000. It now therefore became necessary for the Court of Bankruptcy to call upon the sureties of Mr Clark to make good his default, but it, however, turned out when inquiry was instituted that two or three of them had become insolvent, and that another was residing abroad and not worth a farthing. The sureties who were able having refused to pay, it became necessary that the bond should be enforced, and hence it was that the present action had been brought against the defendant, Mr Shaw, to recover his proportion, £1,000. After the examination of several witnesses, Mr Sergeant Shea addressed the Court on behalf of the defendant. After referring to the importance of the case he said, the real question they were called upon to decide was, whether the Court of Bankruptcy, empowered as it was, did duly and fairly protect the interests of the creditors of those estates which the casualties of trade brought to the ground. The plaintiffs in this case were the Court of Bankruptcy, and from the evidence given it would be inferred that from the time Mr Clark became first a defaulter, till January, 1841, the defendant had received from that Court no information that he had so misconducted himself. It was shown that Mr Clark had failed in his duty to the Court as far back as the year 1833, and yet his conduct had been allowed to pass unchecked. Instead of at once denouncing such conduct by exposure and suspension, the Court, in the clearest sense of the case, had winked at the defalcation, and allowed in consequence upwards of £400,000 to pass through his hands since that date. Could anything more clearly prove that the public, as his learned friend had said, were sacrificed by public officers? It was the conduct of the Court that had given Mr Clark the opportunity of wastefully expending the property of the public to the tune of £7,000 or £8,000, and yet they now sought after the defendant, like true Shylocks, for their pound of flesh, the letter of their bond. He hoped the jury would not countenance it, and that the Court of Bankruptcy would from their verdict receive a wholesome lesson. If the jury did their duty their verdict would soon be communicated to Basinghall street, and in future a careful and just administration of bankrupt's estates would be preserved. Mr Secondary James in summing up stated it was purely a matter of account between the parties. The jury then retired, and after a short absence gave the following verdict:—"We find for the plaintiffs, damages £600, but it is the opinion of the jury, from the evidence brought before them in this inquiry, that great negligence has been proved in the management of the court of Bankruptcy with regard to the security of property arising from the estates under their control."

Quarterly average of the weekly liabilities and assets of the Bank of England, from the 1st March, 1842, to the 21st May, 1842—

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Circulation	£17,536,000	Securities	£21,366,000
Deposits	8,046,000	Bullion	7,032,000
	£25,581,000		£28,398,000

#### PROVINCIAL.

A meeting of the reformers of Bridgewater, Somerset, was held last week, when the minutes of the proceedings of the conference of representatives of the middle and working classes, lately held at Birmingham, were read, and the following resolutions were then proposed and carried unanimously. 1. That this meeting cordially approving the objects and principles of the National Complete Suffrage Union, earnestly recommends all classes of political reformers to become members of the same. 2. That an association be formed in this town to promote the passing of an act of parliament, which shall confer the elective franchise on every man of twenty-one years of age, unless deprived of his right by the verdict of a jury of his countrymen. Such act of parliament, it is intended, shall contain the necessary details to make this right, in its practical exercise, as full, fair, and free as possible. An enrollment of members to the National Union was commenced at the close of the meeting, and there is every prospect that the movement will be heartily united in by every real reformer in Bridgewater.

At the request of the society for Promoting the Improvement of the People, at Yeovil, Mr Clarke, member of the Complete Suffrage Union, delivered a lecture on Wednesday night to an audience of about 200 people. The Rev. H. Solly, having been called to the chair, opened the proceedings by observing that the time was come when persons could scarcely be held guiltless of a serious dereliction of duty if they did not come forward to do their share in relieving the sufferings of their countrymen. A question had arisen as to what was to be done; this society had been formed for the purpose of aiding the inquiry, and enabling the inhabitants of the town to arrive at truth, by the means of free and fair discussion. Mr Clarke then came forward and delivered an address, in which he forcibly dwelt upon the evils of class legislation, and clearly proved that they were only to be removed by complete suffrage. He earnestly exhorted his hearers to base all their efforts for reform upon the highest ground of Christian morality; and concluded his address by an animated and eloquent appeal to the best sympathies of his audience on behalf of their common country and countrymen. The above society was formed in consequence of two lectures delivered by the Rev. H. Solly, the first on "the right and duties of men," the second on "the duty and necessity of forming a cordial and Christian union of all parties to improve the condition of the people."

A meeting of the friends of complete suffrage was held on Saturday night last, at Thornton's coffee house, Knightsbridge; Mr Denshaw in the chair. The adjourned discussion on the necessity and practicability of an union between the middle and working-class reformers was resumed, and the result was the approval of complete suffrage

unions as the best means for the purpose. An address to the electors of Nottingham was read by the secretary.

The cause of complete suffrage is making great progress at Doncaster. An association has been formed, and 100 persons have already joined it; and it is intended to hold a public meeting on the subject.

A meeting of those of the inhabitants of Devizes who had signed the memorial to the Queen was held last week, to take into consideration the proceedings of the Birmingham conference. Resolutions were passed objecting to the extent of the principle advocated by the "National Complete Suffrage Union"—that representation is the remedy for every political evil; and a petition to parliament on the subject was adopted, praying for an extension of the suffrage and the ballot.

The Cheltenham Complete Suffrage association last week forwarded a memorial to the Hon. C. Berkeley, M.P., for Cheltenham; to J. Martin, Esq., M.P., for Tewkesbury; to the Hon. F. M. Berkeley and J. Philpotts, Esq., the members for the City of Gloucester, urging them in firm but respectful language to support Mr Sharman Crawford in his amendment on the third reading of the Property Tax bill. The member for Cheltenham promised to vote for Mr Crawford's amendment.

At the meeting of the "Nottingham Complete Suffrage association" last week, a resolution was passed approving of Mr Sharman Crawford's amendment on the Income Tax, and requesting Sir John Hobhouse to support the same. A committee was also appointed to prepare an address from the association to the electors and non-electors of Nottingham.

At a meeting of the Nottingham chartists last week, it was unanimously resolved, "That a public meeting of the chartists of the different associations should be held, to take into consideration the propriety of expelling every member of the association who should support the opponent of Mr Sturge, that gentleman having pledged himself to the six points contained in the people's charter." Mr Vincent has attended the different ward meetings of the electors, and was received with the greatest enthusiasm. His addresses made a great impression and were rapturously applauded.

The Bradford Reform club have forwarded an energetic address to the electors of Nottingham urging them to support Mr Sturge.

On Wednesday last Mr Walter made his appearance before the Nottingham electors, and in the evening addressed them. The *Times* correspondent thinks there could not have been less than 1,700 persons present. After delicately referring to the late election at Nottingham, and stating that "what passed subsequently might be well understood, though it is not necessary to lay the whole before the enemies of both parties," Mr Walter directed his indignation against the chief promoters of the late bribery exposure, especially Mr Roebuck and Mr Hawes, and charged the latter gentleman with personal animosity against himself in promoting the inquiry into the Nottingham election. He then referred to the New Poor law, and appealed to the electors whether he had not unflinchingly opposed it, and "whether he had not made sacrifices for the cause which first brought him in." Mr Walter was loudly applauded by his party; and though he forbore to touch on any topic of public interest but the New Poor law, they kindly abstained from troubling him with a statement of his principles. Several of his conservative friends afterwards addressed the assembly.

The candidates for the representation of Ipswich in the conservative interest are the Earl of Desart and Thomas Gladstone, Esq. Mr Thomas Gisborne, formerly M.P. for North Derbyshire, with Mr Moffat, a merchant of London, are the candidates in the whig interest. The nomination is expected to take place on Thursday, and the polling on the following day.

The inquiry before the committee into the merits of the late Lyme Regis election has at length terminated. The following is the resolution come to by the committee:—

"That William Pinney, Esq., had not been duly elected as a Burgess for the borough of Lyme Regis. That Thomas Hussey, Esq., was duly elected as a Burgess for Lyme Regis, and ought to have been returned to parliament for the said borough. That the committee deems it right to inform the House that in the course of the inquiry which has taken place bribery has been proved to have prevailed, but not to the extent to bring it home to the candidates. That it appeared to have been the practice for years for the candidates to advance money on notes of hand, bills of sale, &c.; and from the last returns the number of electors did not exceed 280, and that the practice so complained of was so demoralising to those possessing the elective franchise as to call forth the serious attention of the committee."

A petition to the House of Commons, praying it "to adopt, without delay, effectual measures for the prevention of bribery in any form, which would deter both candidates and constituencies from the slightest approach to it—enforce every means consistent with truth to convict the guilty—and promote, substantially, a full, free, and fair representation of the people," was laid down for signature last week at several places at Bath, and was pretty numerously signed.

A county meeting was held on Penenden Heath, on Thursday, convened by the High Sheriff of Kent, to consider the portion of the tariff relating to hops. The High Sheriff presided; and among the speakers were Viscount Torrington and Mr T. L. Hodges. The county members and the ministers shared the indignant reprobation of the meeting. Resolutions were passed against the tariff, declaring that the consumer would not benefit, because the culture of hops would merely be transferred to foreign lands; suggesting that "the real interests of the consumers as well as of the hop-planters, would be best consulted by reducing the malt duty;" and complaining of the mode in which hop-growers are singled out for assessment under the Income Tax bill.

At a meeting, which was held at Manchester on Thursday last, attended by some of the most respectable individuals of the borough, it was resolved to form an association for abating smoke nuisances. It was suggested that the society should have a public room which should be the receptacle of all kinds of inventions for this purpose, to which the manufacturer might have access when seeking information on the subject, and that a committee of scientific men should be appointed to make experiments and report thereon, when necessary to the society. The subject is to come before the British association which will hold its annual meeting at Manchester during next month.

The state of things at Dudley, Stourbridge, and the neighbourhood, is, if possible, becoming more gloomy than ever. The colliers have refused to work at the reduction of wages proposed by their employers. The stocks of coal being nearly exhausted, it is believed that in a few days, unless the colliers resume their occupation, most of the iron works will of necessity be closed, and the evil will of course extend speedily to other trades and interests. The appearance of the working classes is abject in the extreme, and the pawnbrokers' shops are now closed against them.—*Worcester Journal*.

The assistant poor law commissioners, entrusted with the investigation of certain matters at Stockport, say in their report to headquarters:—"We must state in justice to the manufacturing population of the northern counties, that they exhibit a degree of hardihood in the endurance of distress, and a spirit of pride and independence in regard to the receipt of parochial relief, which are not commonly prevalent in other parts of England, so far as our means of observation have extended."

We are happy to hear that some good orders have been received at Kidderminster, and that a general revival of trade is anticipated to take place immediately.—*Worcester Journal*.

## POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, June 1.

In the house of Commons last night, Mr LABOUCHERE asked a question relative to the rumoured intention of the French government to raise the duties on linen yarn imported. Sir ROBERT PEEL replied that some such information had reached them, but that the British government had promptly given an expression of its regret at the adoption of this intention, should it be so determined on by the French government. Several other questions were asked; one by Mr VERNON SMITH, respecting "the theatrical parade," and unseemly proceedings, on the occasion of the preaching of the "condemned sermon" on the Sunday before Good's execution. Sir JAMES GRAHAM concurred in opinion with Mr V. Smith as to the impropriety of the proceedings, but said that the Secretary of State for the home department had no direct control over the civic authorities.

On the question of the third reading of the Income Tax bill, Mr HUME entered into a detail of his sentiments on the commercial situation and prospects of the country, and the commercial measures of the present government. He regarded Lord Palmerston as the evil genius of the late government, leading this country on from war to war, till it was plunged in the mire of the financial difficulties in which the present government found it. Sir R. Peel should deal with public affairs as he would with his own, and not permit any wasteful and unnecessary expenditure of the public money, in keeping up naval and military establishments far beyond the exigencies of the public service. The country was now less able to bear the pressure of additional taxation than when its commercial affairs were in a prosperous condition; and on these and other grounds, which he stated at some length, he opposed the bill.

Sir CHARLES NAPIER and Mr F. J. BARING spoke against the bill, and Colonel WYNDHAM supported it.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER re-adduced the former arguments in support of an income tax, contending that there now existed that exigency in the public finances which called for its imposition. He said the collection of the tax was to be placed under the commissioners of assessed taxes, who would be enabled to do so at an additional cost of about 30,000*l.* to their present establishment; and the entire expense of collection, including establishment, salaries, travelling expenses, &c., &c., would not be above one half of the expense of the collection of the former income tax, which, in 1815, was about 300,000*l.*

After some observations from Mr MANGLES, Sir H. INGLIS, and Mr D'ISRAELI, Mr VILLIERS addressed the House, contending that the income tax was politically unwise, and, practically, atrociously unjust. Its necessity had arisen from bad legislation, interfering with trade, limiting the home market, diminishing expenditure, and deteriorating the condition of the people.

Mr BROTHERTON also opposed the bill in a very able speech, pointing out that it would fall heavily upon the working classes, by diminishing profits and reducing wages.

The House then divided, when there appeared for the third reading, 255; against it, 149; majority, 106.

Some slight amendments were then proposed by the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, on one of which a division took place, when there appeared 199 to 96 in support of the government; and the bill then passed its final stage in the House of Commons.

The attempted assassin of the Queen was fully committed to Newgate last evening, after an examination before the privy council, which lasted four hours. The whole of the examination was kept strictly private; and nothing is yet known beyond the facts, that the pistol was loaded with ball and was actually discharged, and that the prisoner made a previous attempt on Sunday as her Majesty was returning from St. James's chapel, when the pistol missed fire. Addresses of congratulation were passed in both houses of parliament, and in the courts of Alderman and Common Council, which it is expected will be presented after the levee this afternoon.

## COMPLETE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT.

Yesterday the weekly meeting of the committee for general purposes, was held at their rooms in Waterloo street.

JOSEPH STURGE, Esq., having taken the chair, and the minutes of the last meeting been confirmed, the secretary reported that the following circular had been sent to every member of parliament:—

"(IMPORTANT)"

"Birmingham, 5th Month, 28th, 1842.

"The council of the 'National Complete Suffrage Union,' beg to forward a copy of a notice given by the member for Rochdale, to which they are most anxious to direct the attention of all members of parliament.

"The council believe that in consequence of a large portion of the newspaper press, including nearly the whole of the metropolitan daily papers, being under the control of the two leading political factions, the expression of the sentiments of the moral and religious portion of the middle and working classes is so studiously concealed, that the members of the House of Commons have no adequate idea of the almost universal disgust of the country at the recent parliamentary proceedings. A conviction is rapidly growing in the public mind, that we are threatened with fearful perils, from

which nothing can deliver the country but the extinction of that undue aristocratic influence by which our legislature is entirely controlled.

"It is confessed, on all hands, that the House of Commons is corrupted, and that, no longer the organ of popular feeling, it has become the instrument of a class. If proof of this were wanting, it may be found in the history of the late elections, as partially developed during the last few weeks—in the common consent with which, under the pretence of national honour, the government and legislature have involved the country in unjust and cruel wars—in the whole course of legislation during the past, and more especially the present, sessions—in the recklessness and levity by which the present House of Commons is pre-eminently and in the face of the world distinguished—and, finally, in the late refusal even to hear the complaints of a suffering people.

"For these and other reasons, the great mass of the population have ceased to regard the present House of Commons as their representatives; and claiming, on their behalf, the benefit of that principle of the constitution, which provides that no man be taxed without his own consent, or that of his representatives in parliament, the council protest against the infliction of any new tax until such a radical change has taken place in the representative system, as may effect the destruction of that course of class legislation, the continuance of which they firmly believe would be fatal to our very existence as a free and independent nation.

"Signed on behalf of the council,

"JOSEPH STURGE, President."

The Secretary in continuation said, Mr Crawford's motion, to which the above circular referred, came on the night before, and in a thin house was rejected by a majority of 157 against 21.

A great mass of correspondence was then read, including letters from Mr Childs, Bungay; the Rev. H. Solly, Yeovil; Mr Charles Parke, Milbourne Park, Somerset; the Rev. John Jenkinson, Kettering; Mr Cyrus Edmonds, Leicester; Mr R. C. Crolhers, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Mr Hollis, Cheltenham; Mr Cunningham, Salford; Mr Calvert, Branway, near Leeds; Mr Kay, Dunfermline; Mr Lovett, the Rev. Dr Ritchie, the Rev. Thos. Spencer, and others, principally referring to the means for securing the concurrence of members of parliament, to the appointment of lecturers, the progress of the movement, and other general business.

An admirable address from the Leicester association, which we shall give in our next, was then laid before the council.

**INCREASE OF MEMBERS.**—It was reported, that at Salford 326 persons had joined the movement, and upwards of 700 members were reported to have joined in Dunfermline. Exclusive of the above, 70 cards were issued to other places. The council then unanimously adopted the following important address to the electors of Ipswich:—

"To the liberal Electors of Ipswich.

"The council of the 'National Complete Suffrage Union' understand that a contest is likely to take place for the representation of your borough, and that of the four gentlemen who have been put in nomination, two profess liberal principles.

"The council earnestly hope that the latter will give a practical recognition of the claims of the people, by pledging themselves to support in parliament the principle that every man of twenty-one years of age, who is not deprived of his rights of citizenship in consequence of the verdict of a jury of his countrymen, is entitled to the elective franchise.

"The council are firmly persuaded that at the present eventful period, the return of any professed liberal candidate who declines to give this pledge, will be no less injurious to the cause of the people than the return of one who makes no such professions; and that the friends of complete suffrage owe it to themselves to support no candidate who will not advocate their great principle as now defined.

"Signed by request and on behalf of the council,

"Birmingham, 5th mo. 31st, 1842.

JOSEPH STURGE, President."

A conversation then took place respecting the newspaper press, after which the following resolution was adopted:—

"That this council respectfully request that the proprietors of the newspaper press throughout the kingdom will report proceedings in connection with the complete suffrage movement, and will be obliged by copies of any newspapers, containing any such reports, being forwarded to the office at Birmingham, where they will be duly filed; and this council further resolve to pay for all copies of such papers which may be so forwarded."

## NOTTINGHAM ELECTION.

The following addresses from Kettering, and from Yeovil and Bridport, have been forwarded to the electors of the borough of Nottingham. We have heard that similar addresses have been sent from Edinburgh and other places:—

"KETTERING ADDRESS.

"BRETHREN—We, the members of the Kettering Complete Suffrage association, beg leave to offer you our congratulations on the opportunity afforded you of publicly recording your adherence to the principles of justice and sound policy, and of thus exhibiting an example to your sister constituencies throughout the United Kingdom. The course pursued by the electors of Nottingham in time past has more than once exerted a salutary influence on the destinies of the British empire, and we trust the result of the election now approaching will be still more extensively important.

"To neither of the gentlemen who are soliciting your suffrages would we wish to make any other than respectful reference; but the principles which they respectively avow present themselves before us in broad and striking contrast. On the one hand we see the maintenance of political usurpation and injustice—the advocacy of class legislation—and the encouragement of bloodshed abroad, and of ecclesiastical domination, and civil debasement at home; on the other we see a clear and full recognition of the inalienable rights of citizenship—the denouncement of monopoly—the raising of our criminal code to a closer accordance with the spirit of Christianity—the promotion of temperance, peace, and freedom—and the assertion of the right of every man to worship his Maker according to the dictates of his conscience, without being compelled to support a religious system of which he disapproves.

"The principles last adverted to are, in our opinion, so undeniably just in themselves, and so evidently conducive to the real interests of the nation, and the universal happiness of man, as that were they identified with an individual of inferior private worth, they might well recommend him to your choice; but when they are presented before you in the person of Mr Joseph Sturge—a man whose personal character and public conduct are known and admired in almost every corner of the land, and throughout a large portion of the habitable globe—we cannot believe that the electors of Nottingham are so indifferent to their own reputation, so regardless of their country's weal, or so unwilling to redress the wrongs under which millions of their fellow-citizens are groaning, as to experience a moment's hesitation in recording their votes in favour of one whom any constituency might deem it an honour to return as its representative.

"We are, brethren, yours respectfully, on behalf of the association,

"Kettering, May 27, 1842.

JOHN JENKINSON, Chairman."

"YEovil AND BRIDPORT ADDRESS.

"To the Electors and Non-Electors of Nottingham.

"FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN—We, the supporters of complete suffrage, in the towns of Bridport and Yeovil, beg to offer our sincere congratulations on the opportunity now afforded you, of distinguishing yourselves in the cause of civil and religious liberty. The contest in which you are engaged, has lost its local and assumes a national importance. The struggle is not between men merely, but between aristocratic domination and universal liberty, the former represented in the person of Mr Walter, the latter in the person of Joseph Sturge. We hope the men of Nottingham will do their duty, that they will take their stand on the side of their oppressed, suffering fellow-creatures, and show, by placing Joseph Sturge at the head of the poll, that they are consistent with their professions; and that neither bribery, intimidation, nor any kind of corrupt influence, will deter them from the faithful discharge of their duties to their friends, their country, and their God.

"Signed on behalf of the members of the Union,

"HENRY SOLLY, Yeovil.

"ISAAC STEPHENS, Bridport."

## CORN MARKET. MARK LANE, THIS DAY.

There is a short supply of grain this morning. Prices the same as on Monday with a dull trade.

## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"V. Y. V." will find, by reading again the article of which he complains, that what he objects to as a misrepresentation of a class is nothing more than an inference—a legitimate one, we think—drawn from the objection to which we are replying. If reformers do not pretend that the present constituencies are competent in point of political knowledge, the objection to the ignorance of the labouring classes is so much the more futile. The other matter we have treated of elsewhere.

"A Shopkeeper," by his own account, had in his pocket a latch-key to the door of our exceptions. He had nothing to do, therefore, but to let himself out.

"A Subscriber" confirms the view we have taken of shop-drudgery. We thank him; and we doubt not there are thousands who could corroborate his testimony.

Many thanks to our friend at Perth.

"James Humphry," received.

Terms for advertising in the *Nonconformist*.

For 8 lines .... 5s. 0d.	For 16 lines... 7 0	For 24 lines... 9 0
10..... 5 6	18..... 7 6	26..... 9 6
12..... 6 0	20..... 8 0	28..... 10 0
14..... 6 6	22..... 8 6	Every additional 2 lines, 6d

\* \* Advertisements from the country should be accompanied by a post office order, or reference for payment in London.

## The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 1842.

## SUMMARY.

ANOTHER attempt has been made upon the life of her Majesty. On Monday afternoon, as the Queen was returning from her accustomed drive in an open barouche, a young man named John Francis, a lunatic we should imagine, having stationed himself upon Constitution hill, within a few yards of the spot occupied by Oxford some time since, fired a pistol at her as she passed, but happily without effect. Upon receiving information of the event the Houses of parliament immediately adjourned. The assassin having been secured on the spot, was taken to the Home office, and a council was forthwith summoned to take the depositions of the witnesses. Their proceedings have not yet transpired. That this was an act of malice performed by a man in a sane state of mind we cannot as yet believe. Whatever opinions may be abroad respecting the institution of royalty, we think there is but one feeling of attachment to the person of our young Queen; and we can conceive of no motive prompting to the perpetration of this atrocious crime but one which could find place only in unsettled intellects. All parties, we are confident, will hear with satisfaction that the Queen is safe and unhurt.

Parliamentary proceedings, by which we mean proceedings in the house of Commons—for since the accession of Sir Robert Peel to office the House of Lords have had an easy time of it, their work being chiefly done by their nominees below—have been divided pretty equally between the tariff and bribery at elections. Another case has been reported tending to illustrate the thorough corruption of our present constituencies. Lyme Regis, it seems, from the report of the committee, has its own method of sponging candidates for the representation of that borough. The few electors of this place do not take, but only borrow, money; and loans payable after the lapse of many years, borrowed of the would-be member, serve two purposes; they relieve electors under present straits, and effectually secure their gratitude in the shape of a vote. On Thursday, Mr Wynn moved the House for a direction to the Attorney-General to prosecute such persons as shall appear to him to have been guilty of bribery at the last election for Ipswich. A discussion arose thereupon, and the inexpediency of instituting such proceedings against individual cases, where the crime is so general, having been made out by the various speakers, the motion was withdrawn; and to show the horror of the House at the prevalence of corruption, the issue of a new writ for Ipswich was determined upon, by a majority of 126 against 107. On Friday, Mr Charles Buller brought on his motion, to call the attention of the House to the petition of Mr Warburton, and to move for an inquiry into certain corrupt compromises, alleged to have taken place, in order to avoid investigation into gross bribery practised at the last Bridport election. Some curious disclosures were made during the debate by Mr Cochrane and Mr Mitchell, sitting members for that borough. The motion that an inquiry do take place was affirmed by a large majority.

The tariff having got on swimmingly, and the various schedules up to number ten inclusive having been disposed of, Sir Robert Peel ventured to propose on Monday night the third reading of the Income Tax bill. Mr Sharman Crawford then proposed his amendment:—

"That, as by the existing laws a large proportion of the people of this realm are excluded from voting for members of parliament: and as it appears, by the reports of different election committees, that corrupt practices have been used to an extraordinary extent in procuring the return of members to this present House of Commons; and as, from both these causes, this House cannot be considered a fair representation of the people: it is therefore unfit that any system of increased taxation should be imposed by parliament until all just causes of complaint, with regard to the mode of electing the members of this House, shall be first redressed."

It is impossible from the meagre reports of the daily prints to gather any correct idea of his speech on this occasion. Its general course, however, seems to our minds to have brought him fairly to the conclusion at which he arrived—a conclusion which Sir Robert Peel evaded rather than met. If, said the Premier, the House is not competent to impose taxes on the people, neither is it competent to deal with the tariff, nor can it be competent to reform itself.

We believe he is very nearly right, and that the only one thing which the present House is fairly competent to do, is to disperse at the bidding of her Majesty. Twenty-one members only voted with the member for Rochdale, so little hope is there of doing anything for the people in the present House of Commons. The following are their names:—

Bodkin, John Jas.	Ellice, Edward	Murray, Alexander
Bowring, Dr	Ferguson, Colonel	O'Connell, Maurice
Brotherton, Joseph	Fielden, John	Plumridge, Captain
Byng, Rt Hon. G. S.	Hollond, Robert	Scholefield, Joshua
Cobden, Richard	Hume, Joseph	Strickland, Sir George
Drax, John S. W. Esq.	Leader, John Temple	Wakley, Thomas
Duncombe, Thomas	Marsland, Henry	Williams, William
Tellers, Mr Sharman Crawford and Mr O'Connell.		

Since our last, Mr Walter has visited Nottingham. This time his *entrée* was not a popular triumph. He met a company of his own adherents, before whom he made a most characteristic speech. Mr Walter is the political Paganini of the day. He manages to bring all his harmony out of one string, the New Poor law. Even in this his own chosen department, Mr Sturge has played more to the satisfaction of the people, and this is the only political topic to which Mr Walter ventures to allude. His appearance at Nottingham, after recent disclosures, speaks well for his brass, and for his gold too; and supposing that he should now have in his possession a bond for £4,000 to be paid by Sir John Cam Hobhouse, if he fails in obtaining his seat, his allusions to past events by which the honour of Nottingham has been somewhat compromised, afford an unique specimen of putting a good face upon a bad matter. The assertion of his creature, Mr Charlton, that Nottingham was free from the charge preferred against it, and that he and his party knew nothing whatever of corrupt practices, was a characteristic pendant of the whole affair. For our parts we cannot conceive the motive for a lie where that lie is sure to be disbelieved.

It appears from a conversation held in the French Chamber of Deputies last week, that France intends once more to prohibit the importation into that country of linen yarns. When will governments learn wisdom? This is a deadly blow aimed at our manufactures, and if carried into effect will produce appalling distress. Our working population is now half famished, and the discharge at the present moment of a large number of hands would greatly add to the prevailing misery and confusion. Nothing but the most urgent want, surely, could drive many of them to the endurance of cruelties such as are now inflicted upon them. We have already alluded to one feature of the money-Moloch of the age. We take this occasion for recommending to our readers, a pamphlet, published by Strange, Paternoster row, entitled, "The condition and treatment of the children employed in the mines and collieries of the United Kingdom;" and we are happy to be able to announce that Lord Ashley will to-morrow evening move for leave to bring in a bill, founded on the report of the "Children's Employment Commission."

## THE READING AND WRITING FRANCHISE.

A GRADUAL and growing conviction in the public mind that the constituencies created by the Reform bill are too limited to secure fair representation, has elicited several plans for an extension of the suffrage. Whilst some of these are based upon no intelligible principle, there is one the basis of which is marked out with sufficient clearness, and is characterised by sufficient breadth, to entitle it to respectful attention—we mean the educational franchise. It is proposed to take as the sole test of electoral fitness, of course in adult males, ability to read and write. We believe the plan is sanctioned by high authority. It recognises no class distinctions. It puts the suffrage within the reach of all. It gets rid of a great mass of cumbrous machinery. It affords to society a guarantee for the possession by electors of the essential elements to the acquisition of political knowledge. Finally, it would give a mighty impulse to the cause of popular education, from which the happiest results might be anticipated. Such as we have stated are the views of those who advocate this plan of representation; we have endeavoured to state them fairly, and are not conscious to ourselves of any desire to present them to our readers in other than the strongest light. We propose to pass the matter under impartial review.

We confess ourselves to be strongly averse to any plan for the extension of the suffrage, however recommended by impartiality or expediency, which goes to the assertion of a right inherent in one class of men to give to, or to withhold from, another class their equitable share of political power. That the present constituencies possess the power to do this, is an incontrovertible fact. That their power is an embodiment of right we deny. As members of society, under a representative form of government, all men are equally entitled in reason and in justice to a vote for a member of parliament; nor can any class of men, be their qualifications what they may, produce a sufficient voucher for saying, "We will give the franchise in the one case and withhold it in the other." The truth is, the thing is not our's to dispose of as we list. Our power to deal with it according to our own will is an invasion of that which belongs to others. The position we hold, we hold by encroachment. We have trespassed upon our neighbour's grounds, and appropriated to ourselves that which he may justly claim. Our first step, therefore, must be to reinstate him in the possession of his own. With the most benevolent intentions, we may propose such conditions of admitting him to the enjoyment of it as, if complied with, would be a clear advantage to all parties. But we take the liberty of thinking that justice should invariably precede benevolence, and we must therefore *in limine* repudiate any plan of reform which deals out as a boon what ought to be yielded up as a right.

We are bound to admit the immense importance of popular education. Reading and writing we have no desire to depreciate. Knowledge, even to this trifling extent, is power; and well would it be for our whole population were this power possessed by every individual. Far enough are we from joining in the sneers of those who seem to think that to teach men the alphabet, when circumstances prevent our teaching them more, is labour bestowed to little purpose. The very exercise of mind required to master the first rudiments of knowledge is productive of wholesome results—just as a man who suffers from inaction, if he gain nothing else by the cultivation of a small plot of ground, gains health. We hold that no exertion of the intellectual faculties can ultimately be lost. Little instruction may, in numberless instances, be secured thereby; but the tone of the mind is improved. Its muscles (if so we might speak), are brought into healthy play. Utter stagnation is prevented. Attention is aroused. Curiosity is awakened. Memory is put in action. Even judgment, or the power of discrimination, is invigorated. We are by no means reluctant to admit that, *ceteris paribus*, a man is better fitted for the exercise of the franchise after having learned to read and write than he was before; and we estimate them amongst the best benefactors of mankind who exert themselves by every legitimate means to promote the cause of popular education.

Fully disposed, however, as we are to attach importance to this matter, we cannot perceive how, unless by a most arbitrary tie, it can be put in permanent connexion with the possession of the franchise. Reading and writing are good things, undoubtedly; but why should they alone be made the condition of enjoying a fair proportion of political power? There are many other things, the universal cultivation of which would be equally beneficial to society. Sobriety, morality, the worship of God—these and numberless other duties are quite as necessary to constitute men fitting members of the commonwealth as reading and writing. Nobody can question the propriety of seeking to promote them. But whether they may be properly advanced by annexing them to the franchise, as a prerequisite to its exercise, is to our minds extremely doubtful. The ability to read and write may perhaps be more easily tested, but the facility for applying the test does not alter in any respect the principle at issue. The question resolves itself into the following. Is it right that whatever is good in itself, within the reach of all, and beneficial to society at large, should be made the condition of political enfranchisement? If it be, why stop at reading and writing? If it be not, why select them as the only test of fitness? What is the general principle into which the proposition ultimately resolves itself? What the abstract political truth of which this is the concrete? It will be conceded, we imagine, that there are multitudes of things which society may well desire, which, however, it would have no right to constitute essentials to the possession of political freedom. What is there, we ask, to take reading and writing out of this category? What is the peculiarity attaching to them which will justify a statesman in placing the rights of men in abeyance on their account? The *onus probandi* rests upon the advocates of this scheme.

It may be urged that somewhat of political knowledge is absolutely necessary to the exercise of the franchise, and that ability to read and write may be taken as the lowest test of the possession of such knowledge. We dispute this. We contend that it is no test whatever—that its absence often co-exists with shrewd powers of observation and soundness of judgment, and that its presence will still oftener be found in association with ignorance and stupidity the most profound. For it must not be forgotten that the eye is not the only organ of sense by which knowledge may enter into the mind—that books or newspapers are not the only fields thrown open for the exercise of the mental faculties. Time was, when those ancestors whose wisdom is regarded by many as the safest guide of legislators in the present day, sat in the senate and wielded the affairs of this empire, who nevertheless were more deficient in clerkship than the commonest charity boy of our own times. The great principles of political truth (and it is upon great principles that electoral contests always turn) are decided by moral considerations far more than by intellectual argumentation. Rightness and wrongness in the broad sense are questions for the conscience. They may be determined by the common sense of mankind. Knowledge of details may require ability to read and write—knowledge of principles requires only a habit of observation and honesty of heart. In our manufacturing towns, where thought circulates quickly and there is a constant interchange of sentiment among the masses, inability to read and write could not be regarded even as a fair presumption against a considerable amount of political information; whilst in agricultural districts, where population is scattered over a wide surface, and mind but seldom comes into collision with mind, both may be found in the possession of men who know nothing whatever of politics beyond their landlord's will.

As a test, therefore—if test it may be called—of fitness for the exercise of the elective franchise, it is wholly worthless. It would exclude multitudes well qualified both by information and sound principle to give their vote for a parliamentary member, and it would admit multitudes more of the most impenetrably stupid of our adult population. Examined somewhat more narrowly than it has hitherto been, it would be found to be both capricious and arbitrary. It leaves altogether out of sight the advantages and disadvantages of the social position which men may chance to occupy. It would seem to disregard every source of information to which we are accustomed to resort, save and except that which may be found upon paper. Virtually, it implies that a man who can read and write may be safely intrusted with the decision of great political truths, and only he. It matters not in what school of circumstances

the individual may have been trained—what may have been the influences amidst which he has moved—what the plastic powers which may have been brought to bear in the formation of his character. It simply requires that he should understand a small part of the mechanism of knowledge. It demands that he should be able to read and write, and, as far as the fitness of the test is concerned, the demand might as well be made that he should spell and cipher.

Neither can we, by any ingenuity of ours, discover how the ability to read and write can be made to supersede a system of registration and a term of residence. These are not supposed to confer fitness upon the elector, but are simply safeguards against fraud. They constitute no more than the proof which the elector furnishes to the inquiry of the state, "Who are you?" To such a question, the necessity for putting which is obvious to all, the appropriate reply cannot surely be, "I can read and write." Men who can do both these things can give fictitious votes equally well with men who can do neither. Where is the guarantee provided by this system against voting in more than one district? What is there in reading and writing to prevent men hurrying from poll to poll, and thus swamping the real sense of the constituency? Some mechanism there must be to insure society against the possibility of this fraud, and whatever would answer the purpose more efficiently than residence and registration, would answer it quite as well without this test as with it.

Even as a means of promoting popular education, setting aside its legitimacy altogether, we think its value may be fairly questioned. At this present moment thousands entitled to the franchise allow it to remain in abeyance rather than incur the trifling expense, and put themselves to the temporary inconvenience, necessary to place their names upon the register. So much is this the case, that an argument has been founded upon it against the extension of the franchise. The right, it is said, is so little appreciated that it would be no boon whatever to the working classes. This is not the place to point out the unsoundness of the reasoning. We refer to it simply as evidence that to confer political power as a reward is but a poor stimulus to exertion. We have a stronger case in our mind's eye. We might adduce the instance of a benevolent lady, holding a considerable number of slaves, who proposed to grant them personal enfranchisement upon the same terms; yet not a single negro on her estate wrought out his freedom. She therefore set them at liberty unconditionally, and instantly they betook themselves to study, and within a few months acquired the knowledge with which they might have previously purchased freedom, but would not. Give men political power and you will awaken in their minds an interest in passing events which they never felt before. That interest will induce inquiry—inquiry will give birth to a desire to be furnished with the means of satisfying itself. Education will then be coveted, and motives from within to the pursuit of knowledge will prove far more effectual than the strongest motives from without. This is the true way of dealing with human nature. Place men in a position to feel their own wants, and they may be safely left to find out the way to supply them.

The substance, then, of our remarks upon this subject may be thus recapitulated. We think that any system of representation which shifts the suffrage from the basis of right to that of expediency is essentially unsound. We hold that it cannot be maintained as a principle, that things confessedly desirable for the well-being of society may, on this account, be demanded as a qualification for the enjoyment of political power. If reading and writing be required of the elector, it must be on the ground of its affording a fair test of his fitness to exercise the elective franchise. But such a test it does not furnish. In operation it would be found capricious and useless, perpetrating injustice upon many individuals, and affording no guarantee for the safety of society. It would supersede no mechanism required by complete suffrage. Even as a stimulus to education it would be, in all probability, feeble and inefficient; and in addition to these disadvantages it would command the approbation and present exertions of a very small class of men. For these reasons we must be allowed to think that liberal men had better let it drop. The plan is neither good in itself, nor, in the present temper of parties, is it at all practicable. It cannot be put forward without embarrassing the cause of popular freedom.

#### BANKRUPTCY COURT—OFFICIAL ASSIGNEES.

LORD LYNDHURST has introduced to the House of Lords a bill for extending Lord Brougham's present court of bankruptcy to the whole country; and very opportunely to prevent the infliction upon the country at large, a beautiful *exposé* of the system as it is at present worked is again presented.

We refer to the report of a writ of inquiry, in another part of our paper.

We drew attention, at the time the serious defalcations of Mr Abbott and Mr Clark were first made public, to the great error of the system in forcing official assignees upon creditors whether they wished to have them or not—of limiting the number of those assignees, and making them independent of their paymasters, the creditors, by which the office will necessarily become a matter of patronage. Creditors are compelled to pay for services when they do not want them, and estates having funds are made to pay the expense of working the flats and paying the official assignees for attending, so far as they do attend, to estates that pay nothing—thus 6,000*l.* was recently taken by an official assignee for receiving and paying into the Bank of England the funds of one estate.

As Lord Lyndhurst has taken up Lord Brougham's unworkable scheme, we just draw his attention to what, in its parent's own opinion, is fitting to be done before the infliction is visited upon the country at large.

"When his lordship opened his plan which led ultimately to the establishment of the present system of administering the law, he pointed out the course he meant to pursue in these words:—

"I cannot do everything at once; I cannot, in the same session, create a new establishment to administer the law, and a new law for that establishment to administer; I must do one thing at a time; and, of the two, I prefer commencing with the creation of a new and competent court; WHEN WE HAVE GOT THAT, we shall be in a better situation to take another step in advance; first, because, in the members of the new establishment, we shall have persons to whom we may apply with confidence both for information in the nature of statistics, and suggestions, which their experience must enable them to furnish; and, secondly, because, if hereafter it shall be thought advisable to amend the system, by giving a more extended, or even an exclusive jurisdiction to the new court, we shall have persons to whom we can intrust it, with the confidence of the commercial world. My first measure, therefore, shall be to establish a new court; but I will proceed cautiously, and therefore I will establish my new machinery in the first instance in the metropolis only; and having effected that I will pause and look round."

"The reason, it will be observed, for erecting new courts to administer a bad system is, that his lordship would win the confidence of the commercial world, and would establish his new machinery in the first instance in the metropolis only. He did so; and the court of Review, and the official assignees are the evidences of its working; the one failed to secure the respect and confidence of those over whom it was placed, and two of the others, having been forced upon the creditors, have challenged the confidence of the commercial world by systematic plunder."

"A commission was recently appointed to inquire into the state of the laws relating to bankrupts and insolvent debtors, and the administration thereof. The deputy registrars of the court and the official assignees were examined, and with an eye to their own interests, and a full inclination to sound the trumpet of their own fame, the first set forth the "improvements" of the new courts, and the second set forth the necessity for increased salary."

"Mr F. C. Parry was the first officer called, and gave this statement of the improvements of the new court. 'The official assignees have been of very great service to the court and public. Their appointment together with the permanent sitting of the court are the improvements which characterise the new court.'

"Mr H. D. Richardson, another of the deputy registrars of the court, presented himself and said—

"I think that the commissioners acting in London ought to have £2,000 a year each, and the country commissioners, whoever they might be, should have £1,500. I adopt that from a statement which I know to be official, that the first registrar of the court of Chancery receives a salary of £2,000 a year; the second £1,800; the third £1,800; the fourth and fifth £1,500; therefore, the fifth registrar of the court of Chancery receives, in fact, a salary equal to one of the learned commissioners of this court; the sixth registrar receives £1,250. The first clerk of the registrar receives a salary of £800 a year; the second £800; the third £600; and the clerk of a master in chancery, a salary of £1,000 a year. The London registrar, I think, ought to receive a salary of £1,000 a year, the country registrars £800 a year."

"A deputy registrar would not venture thus to deal with the salaries of his superiors, his own commissioner sitting in the chair, but with their assent and consent."

The recent trial shows, that so long back as 1833, Mr Commissioner Fane knew that Clark was then deficient £4000, possessing only £1500 to meet it, yet this man is allowed to go on for years until he ends with a deficiency of between £7000 and £8000.

We think we have heard Sir Charles Frederick Williams, long since 1833, publicly laud this Mr Clark in open court.

We feel assured that he is a man of too much honour to have done this, if Mr Commissioner Fane had communicated the fact to him; and yet it seems extremely difficult to believe that Mr Commissioner Fane had concealed it from his brother commissioner, to whose department of the court, we understand, Mr Clark was more particularly attached.

The truth is, that the pending bill has been thrust upon Lord Lyndhurst by the commissioners, the official assignees, and the Basinghall street placemen; and under the notion of amending the bankrupt laws, which certainly is much needed, a very small modicum of improvement in the law is attempted, and a large—very large increase of jurisdiction is sought, together with a large increase of salary.

The commissioners have of late been delivering homilies on the necessity of strengthening their hands that they may deal properly with fraudulent bankrupts. They have raised their court upon the cry—an unjust cry against creditor's assignees. The cry, it would seem, in some of the commissioners was not raised against fraud, as fraud; because systematic and known fraud in an official assignee was not only suffered to pass unpunished for years, but the fraudulent assignee continued in his place, until he had triplicated his plunder. Surely Lord Lyndhurst will look into this system before he proceeds further.

#### THE "NONCONFORMIST" AND THE "NATIONAL COMPLETE SUFFRAGE UNION."

In the postscript of our last number we inserted a resolution passed by the council of the "National Complete Suffrage Union," constituting the *Nonconformist* the organ of the new movement. We shall take the liberty of introducing it here.

"1. That it being necessary to appoint some recognised organ of communication in which the proceedings of the Union may regularly be published, and to which its members and friends may be referred for authentic information; and the *Nonconformist* newspaper having zealously co-operated in the origination of the complete suffrage movement, and having received the enthusiastic approval of the conference for its able and honest advocacy of the rights of the people, this council, having obtained the consent of the editor, and made with him the necessary arrangements, do hereby recognise and recommend that paper to the people as the weekly organ of the Union."

We deem it due to the body who have done us this honour—due likewise to ourselves and our readers, to make a remark or two by way of explanation. Of ourselves we have only to observe that our position remains entirely unaltered. We have compromised no opinion, and we feel as fully at liberty to criticise with impartiality, and to speak of, if need be, with censure, the proceedings of the Union, as we should that of any other body in existence. Our independence remains perfectly untouched. On the other hand, neither is the Union in the slightest manner committed to our editorial remarks, whether ecclesiastical or political. We must

therefore be regarded, not as speaking their sentiments, but as publishing authentic intelligence respecting their movements. This, besides promoting with all earnestness the progress of the principles which they have espoused, we shall feel a pleasure at all times in doing; and that we may better perform this task, we insert again their second resolution.

"2. That they recommend the members and friends of the Union to make arrangements in their respective localities, for obtaining correct information respecting the progress of the suffrage movement, both in reference to the Union and all other proceedings having the same object, and for sending condensed reports of meetings to the office of the *Nonconformist*, Crane Court, Fleet street; and at the same time they desire to promote the circulation of that paper by every means in their power."

On Monday afternoon, at about 6 o'clock, an attempt was made to assassinate her Majesty as she was returning from her afternoon ride. Her Majesty was in a barouche and four, which was proceeding towards Buckingham Palace from the Green park; when, on the way down Constitution hill, and at about ten or twelve yards from the spot at which Oxford made a similar attempt, a young man stepped forward, presented a pistol at her Majesty, and fired. The result was, fortunately, harmless, and a policeman, who was within a few feet of the man, seized him, and took the pistol from him. A soldier of the Foot Guards, who was standing a short distance behind the man, saw the transaction, and assisted in taking him into custody. He was then conveyed to the Porter's lodge of Buckingham Palace, whence he was conveyed to the station house in Gardiner's lane, and subsequently to the Home office. A council was immediately summoned to take the depositions of the witnesses. It is said that the man made a similar attempt on Sunday evening, but the pistol missed fire, and he escaped. The prisoner's name is John Francis, he is the son of a respectable man of that name, living in Tottenham court road. He is about 20 years of age, about 5 feet 5 inches in height. He has a foreign cast of countenance, though by no means such as to warrant the belief at first entertained that he was a German. His hair is very dark, and he has dark whiskers. His complexion is sallow, and there is certainly nothing to indicate ferocity in his countenance. It appears that he has been absent from his family for more than six months past, and his father had not heard of him for nearly that time.

The long talked of ball for the Spitalfields weavers, was held at the Italian Opera house, on Wednesday evening last. The object of the ball was, not only to give temporary relief to the Spitalfields weavers, but to provide a fund for the erection of a school in which their children may be taught the arts of design. The pit of the theatre was boarded over on a level with the stage, and a splendid pavilion for the royal party arose in the middle of the house, on Corinthian pillars of white and gold, hung with white and gold, and lined with crimson velvet, bearing the Queen's cypher, surrounded with laurel and crystal drops. The company began to gather at half-past nine, and continued to pour in till half-past eleven. The Queen and Prince arrived in state, with the Counts their guests, and a numerous suite, in six carriages, soon after ten o'clock. The Queen wore a diadem of diamonds, with a Maltese cross, and the insignia of the garter; the Prince a field marshal's uniform, with several orders. The Duchess of Kent, the Cambridge family, and the Duchess of Gloucester were present; and the Duke of Wellington came about eleven o'clock, dressed as constable of the tower, and joined the party in the pavilion. The display of jewelery was brilliant. The crowd prevented dancing, except in a privileged circle near the pavilion, until a late hour; and it was therefore kept up still later. The royal guests retired at midnight.

Her Majesty will give another grand state ball at Buckingham palace, the second week in the present month, but we understand that it is yet undecided whether it is to be a *bal costumé* or merely a full dress assembly. The Duke of Devonshire intends to give a splendid *fête champêtre* at Chiswick; the Duchess of Buccleuch one on a similar scale of splendour, at the Queensbury Villa at Richmond; and several other *fêtes* await the arrival of the young French princes, the Duke d'Aumale and the Prince de Joinville.

The *Chronicle* contradicts the report of the death of the Earl of Coventry. His lordship has been for some time in a state of mental incapacity, but, with respect to his bodily health, is as well as usual.

It is understood that the Earl of Wilton is the peer whom Sir R. Peel has selected to convey from our Most Gracious Majesty the order of the garter to the King of Saxony.—*Observer*.

Edward Hibbert, a porter in the employ of Messrs Bramah, Prestage, and Ball, 124, Piccadilly, has been discovered to be heir-at-law to estates in Isleworth, Whitton, Fleet street, and Devonshire, to the value of £1,200,000.—*Morning Chronicle*.

The following are the annuities to the royal family, Duke of Sussex, £21,000.; Duke of Cambridge, £27,000.; Princess Mary, now Duchess of Gloucester, £15,958.; Princess Sophia, £15,958.; Princess Augusta, 11,216; Sophia of Gloucester, £7,000.; Queen Dowager, £100,000.; Duchess of Kent, £30,000.; Trustees of the King of Belgians (a part repaid) £50,000.; King of Hanover, £21,000.; Servants of George III, Queen Charlotte, and Queen Caroline, £14,065. Charge for the royal family, exclusive of the Queen and Prince Albert, £313,197.

#### IRELAND.

The petition against the return of Mr Gregory, M.P., for Dublin, has been withdrawn by the liberal committee.

Mr Corbally has been called upon and has accepted the invitation to put himself forward as a candidate in the liberal interest, for the county of Meath, now vacant. The election is fixed for Tuesday next.

On Thursday the election of a member for the county of Derry, in the place of Sir Robert Bateson, took place in the County Court-house. After the usual preliminaries, Mr Robert Bateson, of Belvoir-park, was elected, without opposition. In returning thanks, he said he should support the present ministry in their general policy, and maintain the interests of the agriculturists.

There is reason to believe that the Irish government are in possession of information of a very startling nature regarding the illegal con-

federacies for the perpetration of crime in Tipperary, which have been so energetically denounced by the Roman catholic clergy in that county. Disclosures of a very extraordinary kind have, it is stated, been made, and which, if true, prove that those confederacies have proceeded to a very formidable and diabolical extent.—*Morning Chronicle*.

One of those disturbances, known by the name of "potatoe riots," took place last week at Ballymena. A lawless and outrageous mob, amounting to some hundreds, assembled for the purpose of hindering the farmers from drawing away the potatoes which they had purchased for seed; and to such extremes did the mob go, that they did not let a single individual pass out of the town, who had potatoes in his cart. Those who attempted to do so were at once attacked by the mob, the horses were dragged from their carts, and the potatoes emptied in the street; and numbers were forced back to the market place, and obliged to sell the potatoes (which they had bought for 22d. per bushel) for a shilling, or, in fact, whatever price the rioters chose to name. A number of serious accidents took place from the violence of the mob.

The *Dublin Mercantile Advertiser* says:—"Every arrangement has been completed with the government and the board of works, preliminary to the commencement of the line between Kingstown and Dalkey, on the atmospheric system. In the course of the ensuing month the works will be in full operation; and thus the Dublin and Kingstown Railway Company will have given the initiative in the practical adoption of a system which is calculated to produce such transcendently important results upon railway communication."

The accounts from Ireland augur most favourably for the agriculturists. The corn crops throughout large districts of Limerick, Cork, Clare, and Galway, are represented as being in a very forward state, and that several fields of wheat are already running into ear. The *Tipperary Free Press* remarks:—"The present broken weather, fluctuating between copious showers and glowing sunshine, is peculiarly favourable. The spring corn is coming up with great vigour and freshness. Potato planting and turnip sowing are proceeding favourably. Never was the land in finer heart."

#### SCOTLAND.

At a meeting of the committee of the Edinburgh Complete Suffrage Union, held on Wednesday last, John Dunlop, Esq., in the chair, an address to the electors of Nottingham, earnestly recommending them to elect Mr Sturge, was moved and unanimously agreed to. It was also resolved to transmit the same to the chairman of Mr Sturge's committee. It was further resolved that the members for the city should be also written to, entreating their attendance and vote in support of Mr Sharnan Crawford's amendment on the third reading of the Property Tax bill.

On Monday, the 23rd ult., the General Assembly was occupied with the important subject of church patronage. Mr Cunningham addressed the assembly at some length, and concluded by moving the following resolution:—"That the General Assembly having considered the overtures anent patronage, resolve and declare that patronage is a grievance, has been attended with much injury to the cause of true religion in this church and kingdom, is the main cause of the difficulties in which the church is at present involved, and that it ought to be abolished." Mr Bell, the procurator for the church, then rose, and moved the following amendment:—"That the General Assembly, having considered the overtures and petitions, find that it is inexpedient, in present circumstances, to adopt the motion." On a division the votes stood thus:—For the first motion 216, for the second motion 147, majority 69. Another long discussion occupied the assembly the whole of Tuesday, originating in a motion submitted by Dr Chalmers, against the pretended encroachments and usurpations of the civil courts, which was carried, on a division, by a majority of 241 to 110.

#### MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE.

**DISTRESSING ACCIDENT.**—The family of G. B. Creudson, Esq., one of the partners in the firm of Wakefield, Creudson, and Co., bankers in Kendal, have lately been residing at Arnside, on the shores of Morecombe Bay, for the benefit of sea air. On Thursday last a female employed in the capacity of nurse in the family, along with another servant, were walking out on the sands to watch the tide come up, with two of the children, one about eight and the other six years of age. Unfortunately they got too far out, and were surrounded by the tide before they could again reach the shore. All four were washed away.

**DEATH FROM HYDROPHOBIA.**—About six weeks ago Mr John Boswell, a farmer living at Durncouner, in the parish of Auchinleck, had in his possession a dog which manifested strong symptoms of madness; and, while in a rabid state, had bitten one of his daughters (a girl of fourteen) on the lip, soon after which it ran off, but was pursued and destroyed: not, however, until it had bitten several individuals, and also cows, in its course towards Galston, where it was killed. Some of the cows have since died, exhibiting every symptom of hydrophobia. The girl's lip began to fester shortly after it received the wound, and in a short time healed up. Last week, however, some symptoms of the terrible malady became apparent, greatly to the consternation of her friends, and indeed of the whole neighbourhood. The symptoms rapidly grew worse; and after the endurance of the most excruciating torture, during which her cries were most heart-rending, she expired.

**MELANCHOLY EVENT.**—The village of Ashover, near Chesterfield, was on Tuesday week, the scene of a most distressing circumstance, Mr R. Eaton, a gentleman in independent circumstances, about 60 years of age, in loading his gun in the house to go in pursuit of a mad dog, accidentally shot his son, a youth about 16 or 18 years of age; and immediately after, in the frenzy of the moment, took a pistol and shot himself through the head, and fell dead upon the spot. The son did not expire till the following morning.

**TWO CHILDREN IN THE WOOD.**—(From the *Novascotian* of April 21.) Two children went astray in the woods, about four miles from Halifax, at the Dartmouth side, on Monday week. Their names were, Jane Elizabeth and Margaret Meagher; the elder, six years and ten months old; the younger, four years and six months. Some hundreds of people, many of them from Halifax, and comprising some military and

Indians, went in search for several successive days. On Friday, a snow storm occurred, and added painfully to the difficulties and depression on the subject. On Sunday, the remains of the children were found about six miles from the home of their parents. They were found locked in each other's arms—the younger with its face on the cheek of the elder. The elder had rolled her apron about the more helpless babe. She had the looks of care and sorrow in death, as if, which is not uncommon in similar cases, premature responsibility was felt, and that to secure and shield the little innocent by her side was felt a duty. The younger seemed as if it met death in sleep. Their tender feet were much injured by traveling—in vain endeavours to reach home. What pangs must have introduced despair into the children's minds, mid their loneliness and hunger, day after day, and night after night, in the wilderness! And yet there was a melancholy sublimity connected with their death—the ripening of the spirit under keen distress, and the mutual sympathy and love which is too often wanted at the death bed of the unfortunate mature. The parents of the children have been subjects of deep commiseration. The remains of the little wanderers were interred, on Tuesday, in the burial ground, between Ellenvale and Allan's. They were laid in one coffin, and in the position in which they were discovered. They had a largely attended funeral, notwithstanding the wet weather. The fine feeling and determination evinced by many of the inhabitants of Halifax, Dartmouth, and the settlements, on this melancholy occasion, deserves honourable notice. Many left their homes for four successive days, to continue the search through the woods; and constant endeavours were made to soothe the sufferings of the parents.

**IMPRISONMENT OF A BAPTIST MISSIONARY AT HONDURAS.**—(From the *Honduras Observer*, March 31, 1842).—"Very considerable excitement has been occasioned here by the imprisonment of the Rev. Alexander Henderson, a highly respectable clergyman of the baptist persuasion. The circumstances that have given occasion for his incarceration are as follows:—Mr Henderson was brought up on Tuesday last, under a magistrate's warrant, at the instance of the chief officer of police, for having, on the 15th instant, interred the body of a child within the premises on which the baptist mission-house stands, instead of the proper baptist burial-ground, although he (Mr H.) had been forbidden by Colonel Macdonald, her Majesty's superintendent so to do; thereby setting himself up in opposition to the express injunctions of the constituted authorities. The magistrates directed a correspondence which had taken place some time ago between the secretary of the baptist association in England and the colonial office, to be read; by which it appeared, that the secretary of the colonies thought Colonel Macdonald was borne out in his interference to prevent the mission-house premises being used as an occasional burial place. Mr Henderson was then asked for an explanation of his conduct, and stated that he had been requested by Mr Adams, on the 15th instant, to officiate at the funeral of his infant child. Mr Adams, who is of the baptist persuasion, and has for many years been an attendant at the chapel under his (Mr Henderson's) ministry, at the time he made this application, particularly requested that his deceased child should, instead of being interred in the common baptist burial ground, be buried within the precincts of the mission-house premises, by the side of a former infant companion, a child of Mr Henderson's previously deceased, the two children having, when in life, been fondly attached to each other. Mr Henderson went on to state, that he at this time mentioned to Mr Adams the necessity of obtaining, in the first place, the permission of the magistrates, telling him, if this was procured, he would have no objection to comply with his wish; that Mr Adams undertook to procure the necessary permission, but, in his deep affliction for the loss of a favourite and interesting child, failed to do so; and that he was ultimately prevailed upon to bury the deceased on the baptist premises, at the earnest entreaty of Mr Adams, who said that he would take all the responsibility on himself. In addition to this, Mr Henderson stated that two bodies had been already interred there, one with the sanction of her Majesty's superintendent, the other with that of the magistrates. William Maskall, Esq., the magistrate who, as Mr Henderson said, had given him permission, on being sworn, stated, that he had no recollection of the circumstance of his granting any such authority to Mr Henderson. William H. Coffin, Esq., being sworn, stated, that he had a distinct remembrance of Mr Maskall granting the permission spoken of; but it appeared that the application had been made when that gentleman was sick and in bed, which accounted for the circumstance having escaped his memory. Mr Walker, one of the magistrates, here expressed his opinion, that Mr Henderson had acted in defiance of the authorities; adding, that it had been reported to him what were Mr Henderson's opinions of the ecclesiastical establishment, &c. In reply, Mr Henderson said, that, when called on, he was prepared to defend his conduct on that head; but that, for the present, he would confine his remarks to the case in hand. Mr Henderson further said, that he had not the most distant intention of contumacy towards the civil authorities; and the occurrence was entirely attributable to the oversight on the part of Mr Adams, in not applying to the magistrates for the required permission. The case was concluded by the chairman of the bench, George Nicholson, Esq., sentencing the rev. gentleman to imprisonment in the common jail for four days, saying to the prisoner, that he should regard this as a mitigated punishment; and that, in the event of any other case being brought against him, her Majesty's superintendent would suspend him from his sacred functions. Mr Henderson was liberated yesterday, the second day of his confinement, by her Majesty's superintendent, on a petition being sent to him by Mr Henderson. His excellency in his letter, in answer to Mr Henderson's, expresses his entire approbation of the proceedings of the magistrates, as being in entire accordance with both the usages and the written law of the settlement. We consider it but a just tribute to the private worth of Mr Henderson to state, that, during the many years he has been in charge of the baptist mission here, he has been remarkable, not only for his correct demeanour as a minister of the gospel, but for the indefatigable zeal he has shown in establishing a highly useful seminary for the education of the rising generation."

**THE AVERAGES.**—It perhaps may not be generally known that under the new act just passed, entitled "An act to amend the law relating to the importation of corn," any person dealing in British corn in any

city or town named in the schedule, or who shall carry on the business of a corn factor, miller, maltster, brewer, or distiller, or who shall be the owner or part owner of any stage coaches, waggons, carts, or other carriages, carrying goods or passengers for hire, and every person who, as a merchant, clerk, agent, or otherwise, shall purchase at any such city or town, any British corn for sale, or for the sale of meal, flour, malt, or bread, made or to be made therefrom, shall, before he or she so deal in British corn as aforesaid, make a declaration in writing to a magistrate. The penalty for neglecting to do so, as well as for not making proper returns afterwards, is 20*l*. Those persons who made declarations under the old law are required to renew them.

**AMERICAN PORK.**—We understand that private letters show the people of the United States to be greatly pleased with that part of Sir Robert Peel's tariff which allows of the introduction of salted provisions at moderate rates of duty. Preparations are making to send large supplies of pork, hams, &c., to this country, not only from the back states, but from Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, &c., where the pigs in numerous herds run wild in the woods, and feed on acorns and maize. From the habits of the animals and the food they live upon, their flesh is of superior flavour; and we may anticipate a large importation at a moderate price. This will be an advantage to both countries.—*Leeds Mercury*.

**COACHING IN THE DESERT.**—The daily papers announce, by advertisement, the establishment of a stage-coach communication between Cairo and Suez! Here (observes the *Athenæum*) is the march of civilisation. But a few years since it was supposed that camels or dromedaries, from their power of enduring thirst, could alone traverse those arid plains, and penetrate the solitude of the desert. Now we have hotels established at regular intervals, with relays of horses, and a coach running, which performs the journey regularly in about eighteen hours. The announcement at the close of the advertisement is amusing—"Refreshments and provisions supplied in the desert at very moderate charges."

**IMPORTANT EXPERIMENT.**—An experiment of considerable importance was made a short time ago at the Polytechnic institution, on a method of remaining under water without communication with the atmosphere for an indefinite period. A gentleman (Dr Payerne, native of France) went down in the diving bell, and remained there three hours, having previously fixed a membrane over the orifice of the tube which conveys air to the visitors; so that, in this case, none could be allowed to enter. He has means of reproducing the gases necessary to support life, which he accomplished with the most perfect success in this instance, and at the end of the appointed time was brought to *terra firma*, and did not appear to have suffered the slightest inconvenience, although he had a candle with him which he kept burning during his sojourn under the water. This gentleman has also an important application to railroad traveling, having an engine already constructed, of forty-horse power, which will travel at a great velocity without steam, boiler, furnace, or anything explosive or dangerous. He is about to make an experiment on this subject.

**COST OF THE WHISTLE—AFFGHAN WAR.**—The expense of this disastrous war since 1838 is estimated at fifteen millions. Loss of British soldiers and camp followers, 15,000, including 300 non-commissioned officers; camels, about 50,000, costing about 500,000*l*. Results:—a pension of 2,000*l*. a year, and a title to Lord Keane, an earldom to Lord Auckland, and half-a-dozen knighthoods—"the ruin of India, and disgrace of England."

**THE PLANET MERCURY.**—A favourable opportunity is now afforded for observing this rare and interesting object. Being very near Venus (a little below it), it may readily be discovered on the western horizon by the naked eye about 9 o'clock in the evening; and by the help of an ordinary telescope, steadily supported, a clear view may be obtained.

**STEAM NAVIGATION ON THE THAMES.**—There are now sixteen steam vessels working daily between Gravesend and London; the same number to Woolwich; twenty to Greenwich; numerous small steamers, the boats of the Watermen's company, and of the Old Woolwich company, between Greenwich and Blackwall. There are eight steam vessels constantly going up and down the river on their way to and from Dover, Ramsgate, Margate, Herne Bay, Southend, and Sheerness. The General Steam Navigation company muster forty-nine first-class steamers, all hailing from London, a fleet superior to the steam fleet of any of the continental powers, and which carry merchandise and property to the amount of a million sterling weekly, and whose consumption of coals exceeds in value £50,000 per annum. There are not less than fifty other large steamers trading between London and various parts of Great Britain and Ireland; twenty-three steam tugs, varying from thirty to a hundred horses' power each, exclusively engaged in towing ships between Gravesend and the Pool; twenty iron and wooden steamers navigating the river above bridge, between London bridge and Chelsea; two constantly running between the Adelphi pier and Putney; and five to Richmond. This is a vast amount of steam power, unequaled upon any river in the world.

**FORCE OF IMAGINATION.**—A court fool, named Jackel, is related to have come to a very melancholy end. He assured the King (Frederick William) that he knew a certain remedy for the gout, if he were only permitted to employ it. The King professed his readiness to give it a trial. Accordingly, in one of his walks, the fool, coming unawares upon his master, pushed him from a very narrow path into a deep piece of water. The King, who thought that the joke was carried too far, determined to repay it with another. He ordered the fool to be put under arrest, and a court martial to be held upon him. The sentence was that he should be beheaded, and that the execution should take place on the following day. Jackel was conducted, amidst solemn preparations, to the spot where the offence was committed. He hoped for pardon, but in vain. The executioner stood ready. Jackel was required to kneel down; he was blindfolded, and his neck bared. At a sign from the king, one of his retinue drew forth a fresh made sausage, and struck the culprit with it on the neck. The fool, not prepared for any joke, dropped dead upon the ground: all endeavours to revive him proved unavailing.—*Campbell's Frederick the Great and his Times*.

## LITERATURE.

*Diary and Letters of Madame D'Arblay*, author of "Evelina," "Cecilia," &c. Edited by her Niece. Vols. 1. 2. 3. London: Henry Colburn, Great Marlborough Street.

"DEAR little Burney," was the endearing expression with which our great lexicographer was wont to speak of the fair and accomplished writer of these volumes. We think the public are very likely to adopt the phrase. There is a witchery in these records of bygone days, such as may be much more easily felt than described. We learn to love the author with pure and strong affection. Her literary and court gossip is not merely entertaining—it is delightful. It is not so much, perhaps, what she shows us, as the light in which it is displayed, which is so irresistibly attractive. She gilds everything with the sunshine of her own spirit. We are made companions to as unaffected, amiable, sprightly, noble-minded a young lady as it is possible for us to find. She hides none of her foibles from us, and we love her the more dearly. Necessarily she talks much of herself, without leaving upon our minds any impression of vanity; and as the bosom friend of this gay, witty, enchanting creature, we are introduced to literary society, of which we have heard so much from Boswell; and to the interior of a court, of the private history of which we have heard so little from any one.

Miss Burney, afterwards Madame D'Arblay, was the daughter of Dr Burney the musician. In her childhood, she evinced no extraordinary quickness of parts—she was even reputed as a dunce; although her mother, more penetrating than others, declared she had no fears for Fanny. Her propensity for scribbling soon showed itself, so much so as to call forth the severe strictures of Mrs Burney. This led her to commit to the flames the whole stock of her juvenile effusions, and to form a resolution to write no more. Her propensity, however, proved too strong for her resolution. Before the age of twenty, unknown to her parents, she had finished her "Evelina;" and, through the agency of her brother, disposed of it to Mr Lowndes, the publisher, for twenty pounds. Its success was unprecedented. It seems to have fairly startled the literary world. Johnson, Burke, Sheridan, Sir Joshua Reynolds, Mrs Thrale, Mrs Montague—indeed all the wits of that day, paid to it the tribute of their willing admiration. The fair and youthful author was soon discovered, apparently much to her annoyance. Her society was speedily courted. Henceforth she moved in the best circles of those times, and within a comparatively short period after the publication of her novel, she became, without solicitation on her own part, an inmate of the palace, as a personal attendant on Queen Charlotte. The Diary and Letters comprise sketchy accounts of whatever of interest she heard and saw. They bear upon them, not only the stamp of authenticity, but of faithfulness; and they make as charming volumes as can well be imagined.

Who has not read Boswell? Who has read him without deep interest? In general plan, the diary of Madame D'Arblay greatly resembles that far-famed work, but we think the volumes of the lady are more fascinating than those of the Scotch lawyer. She has the same felicitous tact in hitting off smart conversation. Her sketches are more airy and life-like. Her materials are more various. Her discrimination of character equally shrewd and penetrating. She is never in stilts. She seldom prosed. She never disgusts you with the tone of sycophancy. Without intending it, she makes the chief interest in her writings centre in herself. She is like a brilliant light in the dark cave of past time, towards which he who enters instantly turns his eyes, and standing by which he sees dimly shining from the depths of the surrounding gloom a hundred objects catching illumination from its rays. We seem to live in the midst of things which were and are not. We become familiar with those who now rank among the illustrious dead, in their social and most unreserved moments. We listen, not to their solemn treatises, but to their gayest prattle. In imagination, we become one of themselves, catch their spirit, enjoy their jokes, sympathise with them in their exhilaration, feel their annoyances, reciprocate their affection and esteem. Unconsciously we identify ourselves with Miss Burney, and are interested, just as she was interested, in all that passes under our review.

We confess that we are strongly tempted by these volumes, to indulge ourselves in a disquisition or two, upon topics which seldom fall in our way. We think, however, that it would be neither fair to the reader, nor the writer of this work. Our space will allow but little room for extracts, and, after all, the best recommendation will be found in quotations from the work itself. We must, therefore, exercise self-denial; and, instead of giving to our readers our own thoughts, must lay before them a sketch from the portfolio of Madame D'Arblay. The following is from the first volume:—

"I must now have the honour to present to you a new acquaintance, who this day dined here—Mr B——y, an Irish gentleman, late a commissary in Germany. He is between sixty and seventy, but means to pass for about thirty; gallant, complaisant, obsequious, and humble to the fair sex, for whom he has an awful reverence; but, when not immediately addressing them, swaggering, blustering, puffing, and domineering. These are his two apparent characters; but the real man is worthy, moral, religious, though conceited and parading.

"He is as fond of quotations as my poor 'La'ry Sma'ter,' and, like her, knows little beyond a song, and always blunders about the author of that. His language greatly resembles Rose Fuller's, who, as Mrs Thrale well says, when as old, will be much such another personage. His whole conversation consists in little French phrases, picked up during his residence abroad, and in anecdotes and story-telling, which are sure to be retold daily and daily in the same words.

"Having given you this general sketch, I will endeavour to illustrate it by some specimens; but you must excuse their being unconnected, and only such as I can readily recollect.

"Speaking of the ball in the evening, to which we were all going, 'Ah,

madam!" said he to Mrs Thrale, "there was a time when—tol-de-roi, tol-de-rol [rising, and dancing, and singing], tol-de-rol!—I could dance with the best of them; but now a man, forty and upwards, as my Lord Ligonier used to say—but—tol-de-rol!—there was a time!"

"Ay, so there was, Mr B—y," said Mrs Thrale, "and I think you and I together made a very venerable appearance."

"Ah! madam, I remember once, at Bath, I was called out to dance with one of the finest young ladies I ever saw. I was just preparing to do my best, when a gentleman of my acquaintance was so cruel as to whisper me—'B—y!' the eyes of all Europe are upon you!"—for that was the phrase of the times. "B—y!" says he, "the eyes of all Europe are upon you!"—I vow, ma'am, enough to make a man tremble!—tol-de-rol, tol-de-rol! [dancing]—the eyes of all Europe are upon you!—I declare, ma'am, enough to put a man out of countenance."

"Dr Delap, who came here some time after, was speaking of Horace."

"Ah! madam," cried Mr B—y, "this Latin—things of that kind—we waste our youth, ma'am, in these vain studies. For my part I wish I had spent mine in studying French and Spanish—more useful, ma'am. But, bless me, ma'am, what time have I had for that kind of thing? Traveling here, over the ocean, hills and dales, ma'am—reading the great book of the world—poor ignorant mortals, ma'am,—no time to do anything!"

"Ay, Mr B—y," said Mrs Thrale, "I remember how you downed Beauclerk and Hamilton, the wits, once at our house, when they talked of ghosts!"

"Ah! ma'am, give me a brace of pistols, and I warrant I'll manage a ghost for you! Not but Providence may please to send little spirits—guardian angels, ma'am—to watch us: that I can't speak about. It would be presumptuous, ma'am—for what can a poor, ignorant mortal know?"

"Ay, so you told Beauclerk and Hamilton."

"Oh yes, ma'am. Poor human beings can't account for anything—and call themselves *esprits forts*. I vow 'tis presumptuous, ma'am! *Esprits forts*, indeed! they can see no farther than their noses—poor, ignorant mortals! Here's an admiral, and here's a prince, and here's a general, and here's a dipper—and poor Smoker, the bather, ma'am! What's all this strutting about, and that kind of thing? and then they can't account for a blade of grass!"

After this, Dr Johnson being mentioned,

"Ay," said he, "I'm sorry he did not come down with you. I liked him better than those others: not much of a fine gentleman, indeed, but a clever fellow—a deal of knowledge—got a good understanding!"

"Dr Delap rather abruptly asked my Christian name: Mrs Thrale answered, and Mr B—y tenderly repeated,

"Fanny! a prodigious pretty name, and a pretty lady that bears it. Fanny! Ah! how beautiful is that song of Swift's—

"When Fanny, blooming fair,  
First caught my ravished sight,  
Struck with her mien and air—"

"Her face and air," interrupted Mrs Thrale, "for 'mien and air' we hold to be much the same thing."

"Right, ma'am, right! You, ma'am—why, ma'am—you know everything; but, as to me—to be sure, I begun with studying the old Greek and Latin, ma'am: but, then, traveling, ma'am!—going through Germany, and then France, and Spain, ma'am! and dipping at Brighthelmston, over hills and dales, reading the great book of the world! Ay, a little poetry now and then, to be sure, I have picked up.

"My Phæbe and I,  
O'er hills, and o'er dales, and o'er valleys will fly,  
And love shall be by!"

But, as you say, ma'am!—

"Struck with her face and air,  
I felt a strange delight!"

How pretty that is: how progressive from the first sight of her! Ah! Swift was a fine man!"

"Why, sir, I don't think its printed in his works!" said Dr Delap.

"No!" said Mrs Thrale, "because 'tis Chesterfield's!"

"Ay, right, right, ma'am! so it is."

Now, if I had heard all this before I wrote my play, would you not have thought I had borrowed the hint of my Witlings from Mr B—y?

"I am glad, Mr Thrale," continued this hero, "you have got your fireplace altered. Why, ma'am, there used to be such a wind, there was no sitting here. Admirable dinners—excellent company—*très bon fare*—and, all the time, 'Signor Vento' coming down the chimney! Do you remember, Miss Thrale, how, one day at dinner, you burst out a laughing, because I said a *très bon* goose?"—(Vide vol. 1, p. p. 278—281).

We have made the selection quite at random, but it is a fair illustration of Miss Burney's graphic powers. We are sorry that we must limit ourselves to this. The volumes, however, have become so popular, that they need no recommendation of ours. Such as it is we give it, with thorough cordiality. It is many years since we read a work of this description, which has taken such a hold upon our affections. We have been literally under a spell, unable to get away until the volumes were concluded. The work is yet unfinished, and we look with earnest longings for the succeeding portions of it.

"No Popery!" *The Cry Examined*. London: Snow.

HERE are sixteen pages of powerful writing. We have seen large and respectable volumes on the same subject of which they treat, which have not contained so much argument and so much spirit. The author proves that those who have been the loudest and most bitter in their cry of "No popery," are themselves the strenuous maintainers of the principles of all popery.

"It is," he says, "the spirit of popery, the spirit of ascendancy, that stimulates the cry, for it is that alone which fears a rival. Ascendancy—yes! this it is which is also meant though not expressed by the cry of no popery!" \* \* \* "Fellow countrymen! awaken to the fact, that it is solely because there is a national church establishment that we have reason to apprehend Roman catholic ascendancy!" \* \* \* "It was injustice to exclude them (the Roman catholics) from equal rights with other citizens, on account of their religion, but it was madness to admit them to their present freedom (supposing it could be helped) without at the same time dissolving the alliance between church and state." \* \* \* "There is no consistent medium, no medium that does not revolt right reason and true religion, between the intolerance of fiercest popery and the equal liberty of perfect voluntarism."

Another taste of this writer's quality, and it is very much after our own hearts, and we have done. Only observing that in our opinion it ought to be circulated by thousands.

"The spirit of our constitution is free. The institutions which it recognises, it recognises only as instruments of public good, and as compatible with equitable freedom. Show that any of them have failed, or may be beneficially altered or superseded, and the spirit of the constitution demands the change. The motto of the British constitution is surely misread, if it be not read, 'The safety of the people is the supreme law.' Truth first, institutions second—the safety and welfare of the people the first consideration; what institutions will subserve it the next. To cherish the principle of a state church is, at best, to cherish a sleeping adder."

*Reasons why I, a Jew, have become a Catholic, and not a Roman Catholic.* A letter in reply to the Rev. R. W. Sibthorp, B.A., late of Ryde. By RIDLEY H. HERSCHELL, author of "A Brief Sketch of the Jews." London: Unwin.

MR SIBTHORP'S statement, in his answer to the inquiry, "Why are you become a Catholic?"—that the constitution of the ancient Jewish church led him to look for a similar constitution in the church of Christ, has called forth this reply from Mr Herschell. It is a calm, yet forcible, refutation of this plausible argument in favour of the Romish hierarchy; and comes with peculiar effect from one who possesses a perfect acquaintance with the nature and design of the Jewish ecclesiastical constitution. As a Jew, converted to Christianity by reading the New Testament, and having a visible church to seek with which to unite himself, Mr Herschell frankly declares, "Had I found in the Roman Catholic church that which the New Testament led me to believe I should find in Christianity, I would have joined the Roman Catholic church. I not only did not find it, but found much that was directly contrary to the doctrine of the New Testament, and therefore did not join it." With regard to the forced analogy which Mr Sibthorp says exists between the Mosaic dispensation and the true Christian church, Mr Herschell observes, "Strong as my predilections in favour of the Jewish church may naturally be supposed to have been, I was led by the New Testament to a different conclusion. I find the two dispensations spoken of much more in the way of contrast than of resemblance." To show this, and to turn Mr Sibthorp's reasoning against himself, is the principal object of this well-written pamphlet.

*The Local Preacher's Journal*. London: Ward and Co.

THIS monthly periodical commenced with the present year, and is expressly designed to meet the convenience, and at the same time promote the intellectual and moral advantage, of that eminently useful class in the religious community—the local preachers. Each number contains seven outlines of sermons on important subjects, besides valuable extracts from standard theological works, biblical notes, observations on oriental customs, and miscellaneous literary ure. It is a publication well adapted to answer the end proposed by its editor, who we take to be a Wesleyan minister.

*Political Economy on Scriptural Principles, the only Security of a Nation's Happiness as a whole*, or the only basis of a happy and stable government. London: Ward and Co.

THE writer of this excellent treatise feels something like an apprehensive dread of being deemed a political meddler. He seems to be under a morbid influence which whispers to him, that if a religious man "acts the citizen," and takes up political questions with zeal and energy, he is liable to the imputation of obtruding into a sphere from which his piety ought to exclude him. If he does not himself yield to this influence by the kind of apology he makes for his appearance as a writer on political science, he differs from those who do. Now, away with such feeling. Every man is a member of the body politic, and religion teaches him his duty on that as well as every other relation he sustains. To be sanctimonious is not to be a saint. Christianity requires that its disciples should be *men* in understanding, and not driving babes. The author, notwithstanding his protest against political meddling, has fearlessly applied scriptural principles to the affairs of government, and to the mutual duties of rulers and their subjects. The title is a misnomer. The subject of the work is not, in the technical sense, political economy. He takes a large range.

*Christian Consistency, or the Connexion Between Experimental and Practical Religion, Designed for Young Christians*. By E. MANNERING, of Holywell Mount chapel. Second Edition. London: R. Baynes.

THIS is a seasonable little work, and we are not surprised that it has so soon reached a second edition. It is not intended by its respected author to supersede the many useful guides which have been long in circulation, and from which the juvenile portions of the church have derived much instruction and profit—it may be regarded rather as auxiliary to these; and we trust that the interesting class for whose benefit these pages were written, will devoutly peruse "this humble and affectionate tribute of concern for their holiness, happiness, and usefulness."

#### LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

1. *Puseyism*. By Rev. R. FERGUSON.
2. *Waddington's History of the Reformation*.
3. *A Politico-Ecclesiastical Earthquake*.
4. *The Devotedness of a Christian Church to the Cause of Christ*.
5. *Why are we Dissenters?* 4 lectures. By JOHN BIGWOOD.
6. *Use and Study of History*. By W. T. McCULLAGH.
7. *The Greek Church Identified, &c.*
8. *Evangelical Magazine*, for June.
9. *Eclectic Review*, for June.

#### RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

The hundred-and-forty-first anniversary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, was held in St Paul's Cathedral on Friday last. The Archbishop of Canterbury was present, and there was a large attendance of clergy. After divine service a collection was made.

The annual meeting of the subscribers and friends to the Sailors' Female Orphan Home, was held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate street, on Wednesday evening last. On the front of the platform were ranged the children now in the institution, and opposite them those who have left, and who are now in service. The chair was taken by Captain Hope, R.N. From the report it appeared that the institution had suffered a severe loss by the death of Mr Howe, who, from its commencement, had been one of its warmest supporters. From the embarrassed state of the funds, the committee had been under the necessity of restricting the number of the children under the care of the society to twenty; and it was intended to adhere to that, until the debt was removed. During the past year, one of the children after a long illness, had died. From the cash accounts, it appeared that the total receipts of the year amounted to £444 12s. 1d.; there was a balance in hand of 18s. 4d., but the liabilities were nearly £230.

The annual meetings of the Welsh (Independent) Congregational churches in Liverpool were held on Sunday, May 22d, at the Tabernacle, Great Crosshall street; Bethel, Bedford street; Park and Salem, Brownlow hill. The following ministers officiated:—Rev. J. Harris, Mold; W. Jones, Amlwch; R. Thomas, Dinas; H. Jones, Tredegar, South Wales; D. Williams, Llanwrtyd, South Wales; J. Roberts, Llanbrynmaur; Richard Parry, Conway; D. Price, Rhos; and W. Griffiths, Holyhead. The collections at the several places of worship in aid of the funds for reducing the debts on the chapels amounted to the handsome sum of 326l. 10s. 1d., being the largest amount hitherto subscribed for that object.

The services connected with the opening of the new baptist chapel, St Mary's gate, Derby, took place on Wednesday, May 18th, and the following Sabbath. The Rev. James Parsons, of York, preached on the Wednesday morning; the Rev. W. Pickering, of Nottingham, in the afternoon; and the Rev. J. E. Giles, of Leeds, in the evening. The collections were—in the morning, 103*l*. 12*s*.; afternoon, 48*l*. 12*s*.; evening, 52*l*. 12*s*. 6*d*. On the Lord's day the Rev. John Stevenson, M.A., of London, preached in the morning; the Rev. J. Goadby, of Leicester, in the afternoon; and the Rev. J. G. Pike, the pastor of the church, in the evening. Collections—in the morning, 60*l*. 6*s*.; afternoon, 45*l*.; evening, 98*l*. 17*s*. The Revs W. Butler, of Heptonstall Slack; E. Stevenson, of Loughborough; J. Gawthorn, of Derby; and J. C. Pike, of Wisbech, took part in the devotional exercises.

The anniversary of the opening of the baptist chapel at Stanwich, Northamptonshire, was held on the 17th ult., on which occasion three sermons were preached by Messrs Flanders of Riseby, Hall of Carlton, and Peacock of London. A tea meeting was held in the afternoon, at which addresses were delivered by Messrs Jenkinson of Kettering, Whittemore of Rushden, and Walcot of Stanwich. The services were all interesting. The collections amounted to about £16, which will be appropriated to the enlargement of the chapel, which is far too small for the congregation attending it.

## BIRTH.

May 27, Mrs JOHN GRIFFITHS, of Clerkenwell Green, of a daughter.

## MARRIAGES.

May 24, at the independent chapel, Clapton, by the Rev. J. Stratten, the Rev. J. Nisbet, of Hobart Town, to SARAH ELIZABETH, eldest daughter of Henry Hopkins, Esq., of the same place.

May 26, at Claremont chapel, Pentonville, by license, by the Rev. S. S. Bright, of Luton, FREDERICK PEARCE, Esq., solicitor, Woolwich, to ELIZABETH, youngest daughter of David M'NIEL, Esq., of Pentonville.

May 26, at the independent chapel, Thaxted, by the Rev. Joshua Sewell, Mr BENJAMIN T. THURGOOD, of Hobs Aerie, Arkesden, Essex, to Miss PORTWAY, eldest daughter of Mr John Portway, of "the Hill," Great Sampford.

## DEATHS.

April 6, in the island of Jamaica, Mrs HENDERSON, wife of Mr G. R. Henderson, who had arrived only three months before, to take charge of the British school at Waldensia. May 11, at his own house, in Bradford, Wilts, Mr JAMES BUDGETT, aged 77, deacon of the old independent church in that town.

## TRADE AND COMMERCE.

## LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, May 27.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 Wm IV., cap. 85:—  
Zion chapel, Hulme, Lancashire. J. Latham, jun., superintendent registrar.  
St Michael's chapel, Lyme Regis, Dorsetshire. C. Bond, superintendent registrar.

## INSOLVENTS.

DELAMAIN, HENRY FERDINAND, 37, St Mary-at-Hill, City, wine merchant, May 26.  
JOHNSON, MARY and WILLIAM, Cheadle, Staffordshire, grocers and ironmongers, May 27.

STEVENS, HENRY, William, Hertfordshire, and JOHN, Claphill, Bedfordshire, builders May 26.  
BANKRUPTcies ANNULLED.  
OWEN, JOHN, Woolwich, Kent, cow keeper.

THOMAS, JOHN, Ramsgate, Kent, butcher.

## BANKRUPTS.

BOWRA, EDWARD, late of 67, Gracechurch street, City, umbrella and mackintosh warehouseman, to surrender June 7, July 8: solicitor, Mr Sturmy, 8, Wellington street, London bridge.

DAVIS, FRANCIS, Weymouth, and Melcombe Regis, Dorsetshire, wine merchant, June 7, July 8: solicitors, Mr R. C. Phillips, Weymouth and Melcombe Regis, and Mr Combe, 13, Staple inn, London.

DAWSON, JAMES, Huddersfield, woollen cloth merchant, June 10, July 8: solicitors, Messrs Battye and Co., 2, Chancery lane, London, and Messrs Stephenson and Co., Holmfirth, near Huddersfield.

DYKES, THOMAS, Broad street, St Giles's, stationer, June 11, July 8: solicitors, Messrs Rhodes and Co., Chancery lane.

EVANS, THOMAS, Welsphool, Montgomeryshire, and Oswestry, Shropshire, draper, June 18, July 8: solicitors, Messrs Milne and Co., Temple, London, and Mr W. Yearsley, Welsphool.

GOOING, WILLIAM, Chatham, Kent, boot and shoe maker, June 8, July 8: solicitor, Mr Hughes, Chapel street, Bedford row.

HEYWOOD, WILLIAM, now or lately of Basinghall street, London, and of Manchester, warehouseman, June 10, July 8: solicitors, Messrs Abbott and Arney, 10, Charlotte street, Bedford square, London, and Messrs E. and R. W. Bennett, Manchester.

HILL, WILLIAM, and WACKERBAETH, WILLIAM KEMBLE, Leadenhall street, City, ship and insurance brokers and merchants, June 6, July 8: solicitor, Mr Hughes, Chapel street, Bedford row.

HOMER, CHARLES, sen, late of Dudley, Worcestershire, but now of West Bromwich, Staffordshire, wine merchant, June 11, July 8: solicitors, Messrs Smithson and Mitton, Southampton buildings, Chancery lane, London, and Mr T. S. Smith, Liverpool.

HUTTON, GEORGE, Liverpool, ship chandler, June 8, July 8: solicitors, Mr Roscoe, 5, Raymond's buildings, Gray's inn, London, and Mr J. Moss, Liverpool.

PENDLERBURY, CHARLES, Bury, Lancashire, bleacher, June 14, July 8: solicitors, Messrs Milne and Co., Temple, London, and Mr Briggs, Bolton.

STYLE, ELIZABETH, Windsor, Berkshire, bookseller, June 2, July 8: solicitor, Mr Burbidge, 88, Hatton garden, London.

## SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

ALLARD, JAMES, Boynsmill, Aberdeenshire, distiller, June 2, 30.  
ARTHUR, CHARLES and SONS, Kirkcaldy, yarn spinners, June 2, 23.

BROWN, WILLIAM, Airdrie, messenger at arms, June 2, 23.

MILLER, JOHN, Limekilns, ship builder, June 4, July 2.

WILKIE, JAMES, Edinburgh, baker, June 3, 24.

WISE, JOHN, Glasgow, victualing-house keeper, June 1, 29.

## DIVIDENDS.

June 17, Schlesinger, late of 268, Strand, and of Friday street, City, merchant—June 17, Collis, Dunmow, Essex, draper—June 20; Hughes, Cross, Somersetshire, dealer in lapis calaminaris—June 20, H. and F. Rogers, Finch lane, Cornhill, wine merchants—June 20, Wilcocks, Bracknell, Berkshire, saddler—June 18, Vandergucht, Quadrant, Regent street, silk mercer—June 18, Clark, formerly of Calcutta, East Indies, but now of New Broad street, London, merchant—June 21, Newsome, Dewsbury, Yorkshire, oil crusher—June 17, Maxey, Royal Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, corn dealer—June 23, Gidden, Farringdon, Berkshire, victualer—June 23, Hawthall, Manchester, merchant—June 20, Bryan, Cotton End, Northamptonshire, shoe manufacturer—June 21, Lowndes, Manchester, wine merchant—June 17, Todd, Birmingham, factor—June 20, Goodeve, Chichester, Sussex, banker's clerk—June 22, Harcastle, late of Birmingham, grocer—June 28, J. and J. Cotter, Toxteth park, Lancashire, joiners—June 29, T. and E. Taylor, Rawmarsh, Yorkshire, earthenware manufacturers—June 20, Gibbs, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, tavern keeper—June 21, Garry, Manchester, brass founder—June 22, Downman, Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire, tin plate manufacturer—June 23, Hallett, Ryde, Isle of Wight, draper.

## CERTIFICATES—JUNE 17.

Cunard and Ingram, New Broad street, City, merchants—Gough, Pencombe, Herefordshire, dealer—Crighton, sen., Manchester, machine maker—Darlington, Liverpool, wine merchant—Bent, Riches court, Lime street, ship broker—Buckett, Great Bourton, Oxfordshire, sheep dealer—Graydon, St Ann's place, Limehouse, ship chandler and timber merchant—Hurrell, Walthamstow, Essex, cattle dealer—Calverley, of the Abbey, near Knaresborough, Yorkshire, corn miller and tanner.

## PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

T. and C. Steedman, Dudley, Worcestershire, wine merchants—Douglas and Co., Liverpool, curriers—M'Cracken and Hillman, Leicester, stone masons—T. and R. Skinner, Fordingbridge, Southampton, tanners—Hall and Gardner, Sunderland, brokers—Lax and Cooper, Barnard Castle, Durham, joiners—Harper and Pratt, Warwick, chemists—Hardey and Stephenson, Kingston-upon-Hull, coal merchants—Roberts and Wellings, Birmingham, woolstaplers—Searle and Debonaire, 61, Sun street, Bishopsgate street, City, grocers—Bluck and Co., 23, Cockspur street, Westminster, print sell-

ers—Haigh and Crow, Milnes bridge, Yorkshire, fancy woollen manufacturers—Fernandes and Co., Stanley, Yorkshire, coal merchants (so far as regards Casson and Walker)—C. and J. Shield, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, wine merchants—Naylor and Co., Horton, Yorkshire, machine makers—Yewdalls and Co., Exholt, Yorkshire, scribbling and fulling millers—Barton and Co., Preston, Lancashire, flax spinners.

Tuesday, May 31.

## INSOLVENTS.

BALDING, GEORGE, Sulhamstead wharf, Reading, Berkshire, coal dealer, May 31.  
CLARK, JOHN HORATIO and FARROW, HENRY CHARLES, King William street, City, wine merchants, May 30.

SMITH, WILLIAM GREY, Vauxhall walk, Lambeth, surgeon, May 31.  
THOMPSON, ROBERT BENNETT, formerly of 104, and now of 118, Wood street, Cheapside, City, warehouseman, May 30.

## BANKRUPTS.

BEANLAND, JOSEPH, Birkenhead Bottoms, and Bradford, Yorkshire, woolstapler, coal miner, and toll contractor, June 13, July 12: solicitors, Mr W. T. Fenton, 1, Fenchurch street, London, and Messrs Fenton and Jones, and Messrs Battye and Clay, Huddersfield.

BIGGS, GEORGE, 11, Coal Exchange, Lower Thames street, City, coal merchant, June 10, July 12: solicitor, Mr Stephen, 4, Skinner's street, Sise lane.

EMERSON, EDWARD, Manchester, thread and tape manufacturer, June 14, July 12: solicitors, Mr William Newman, Lincoln's inn fields, London, and Mr James Lees Willoughby, Manchester.

FRANK, JOHN, Maesbury hall, Oswestry, Shropshire, farmer, barytes manufacturer, and canal carrier, June 11, July 12: solicitor, Mr Edward Oswell, 52, Lincoln's inn fields, London.

GIBSON, GEORGE, 53, Ratcliffe highway, upholsterer, June 7, July 12: solicitor, Mr W. L. Howell, 40, Ratcliffe highway.

HERDMAN, JOHN, and HERDMAN, EDWARD, jun., Havana mills, Congleton, Cheshire, millers, June 9, July 12: solicitors, Mr Robert Norris, Liverpool, and Messrs Norris and Co., Bartlett's buildings, Holborn, London.

JACKSON, JAMES, Lincoln, chemist, June 14, July 12: solicitors, Messrs Hawkins and Co., 2, New Boswell court, Lincoln's inn, London, and Messrs Dudding and Danby, Lincoln.

JOHNSON, THOMAS THAIN, 35, Wood street, Cheapside, City, ribbon manufacturer, June 8, July 12: solicitor, Mr Sadgrove, 52, Mark lane.

ROSE, HENRY, Blackburn, Lancashire, drysalter and oil merchant, June 15, July 12: solicitors, Messrs Robert and William Ascroft, Preston, and Messrs Adlington and Co., Bedford row, London.

ROBINSON, CALEB, 269, High Holborn, tailor, June 10, July 12: solicitors, Messrs Mardon and Pritchard, Newgate street.

SIMMONS, BENJAMIN, and BROOK, JONATHAN, of the Folly, Dockhead, Bermondsey, ironfounders, June 7, July 12: solicitors, Messrs Linds y and Mason, Cateaton street.

STANFORD, JOHN, late of 49, Pall mall, but in the Fleet prison, architect, June 8, July 12: solicitors, Messrs Barber and Bucham, 28, New Bridge street, Blackfriars.

THOMPSON, BENJAMIN, Wylam, Northumberland, and Newcastle-upon-Tyne, iron manufacturer, June 17, July 12: solicitors, Messrs Crosby and Compton, 3, Church court, Old Jewry, London, and Mr Hoyle, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

WOOLLEY, SAMUEL, Birchwood, Derbyshire, coal dealer, June 8, July 12: solicitors, Mr Rowland Tallop, 8, Farnival's inn, London, and Messrs W. S. Parsons, jun., Nottingham.

## SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

ALLARDS, JOHN, Raich, and of Fergie, Aberdeenshire, cattle dealer, June 7, July 5.  
DUN, THOMAS, Edinburgh, dealer in furniture, June 6, July 27.

FRASER, JAMES, Markinch, Fifeshire, publisher, June 6, July 4.

JACK, ROBERT, Paisley, thread manufacturer, June 3, July 24.

LYON, JAMES WALTER, Edinburgh, working jeweller, June 6, July 4.

NISBETT, ARCHIBALD, Glasgow, minister of the gospel, June 3, 24.

RAITRAT, PATRICK, Glasgow, mason, June 6, July 4.

SMITH, JAMES, Grange mill, Forfarshire, yarn miller, June 6, July 25.

## DIVIDENDS.

June 17, Martin, Shoreditch, grocer—June 23, Balls, Vassall road, Brixton, and Vauxhall road, Lambeth, coach proprietor—June 21, Lee, Guildford, banker—June 23, Blyth, Colchester, merchant—June 23, Danford late of Battersea fields, Surrey, and George yard, Lombard street, money scrivener—June 23, Hutton, 37, Fenchurch street, and 6, Myddleton square, Clerkenwell, merchant—June 23, Davis, Bath, architect—June 23, Swift, jun., Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, auctioneer—June 23, Jones, late of Bridgewater, Somersetshire, dealer in musical instruments—June 23, Robberds and Day, Taverham, Norfolk, paper makers—June 22, Walker, Nottingham, silkman—June 23, Storey, Sheffield, pawnbroker—June 27, Trubshaw, jun., Stafford, iron founder—June 22, Jackson, King's Lynn, Norfolk, corn merchant—June 23, V. and J. Hare, Taunton, Somersetshire, house and estate agents—July 8, Morris, Newbridge, Glamorganshire, grocer.

## CERTIFICATES—JUNE 21.

Hare, Union court, City, merchant—Buckton, Darlington, Durham, grocer—Morrison, Nottingham, lace manufacturer—East, Kingsthorpe, Northamptonshire, carpenter—Bailey, 13, Mount street, Grosvenor square, London, upholsterer—Benson, Birmingham, confectioner.

## PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Clothier and Moody, 5, Castle street, Bloomsbury, coal dealers—Whitworth and Macfarlane, Manchester, packers—Runcorn and Gregory, Manchester, glass dealers—Mandall and Tennant, Penrith, Cumberland, grocers—Griffiths and Co., Smeethwick, Staffordshire, engineers (so far as regards R. Griffiths)—Johnston and Hardey, Hull—G. and J. Adams, Lewes, Sussex, cabinet makers—Sherratt and Draper, Macclesfield, Cheshire, silk manufacturers—Dodgson and Co., Kirkby Ireleth, Lancashire, slate merchants (so far as regards W. Dodgson)—Fielding and Hindle, Accrington, Lancashire, power loom cloth manufacturers—Tyler and Davenport, 7, South square, Gray's inn, London—Waterhouse, Bolt court, Fleet street, London, and Hatfield, Sheffield, Yorkshire, silverplaters—Martineau and Son, Goulstone street, Whitechapel, sugar refiners—Major and Weir, Brighton, corn dealers—Dysen, jun., and Lodge, Grange Moor, Yorkshire, manufacturers of fancy goods—F. and G. Smith, Keighley, Yorkshire, worsted spinners—Lindley and Boond, Manchester, fustian stiffeners—Phillips and Ronald, Liverpool, woolstaplers.

## BRITISH FUNDS.

There has been much firmness in the value of the public securities, the accounts from America serving to confirm the good tone that prevails, and prices have been rather on the advance.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols .....	92½	92½	92½	92½	92½	92½
Ditto for Account .....	92½	93	93	93	93	93
3 per cents. Reduced .....	91½	91½	91½	91½	91½	91½
3½ per cents. Reduced .....	100½	100½	100	100	100	100
New 3½ per cent. ....	101½	101½	101	101	101	101
Long Annuities .....	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½
Bank Stock .....	167½	167½	168	167½	167½	167½
India Stock .....	249	250½	—	—	—	—
Exchequer Bills .....	39 pm	37 pm	40 pm	41 pm	42 pm	42 pm
India Bonds, 3 per cent. ....	—	—	22 pm	23 pm	22 pm	22 pm

## FOREIGN FUNDS.

Austrian .....	110½	Mexican .....	37
Belgian .....	102½	Peruvian .....	19½
Brazilian .....	67	Portuguese 5 per cents .....	65
Buenos Ayres .....	23	Ditto 3 per cents .....	22½
Columbian .....	27	Russian .....	113½
Danish .....	81½	Spanish Active .....	23
Dutch 2½ per cents .....	52½	Ditto Passive .....	4½
Ditto 5 per cents .....	101½	Ditto Deferred .....	10½

## SHARES.

Railways—		London and Brighton .....	35½
Birmingham and Derby .....	49	London and Croydon Trunk ..	14
Birmingham and Gloucester ..	51	London and Greenwich .....	6
Blackwall .....	11	Ditto New .....	17½
Bristol and Exeter .....	44	Manchester and Birmingham ..	28½
Cheltenham and Gt. Western .....	22½	Manchester and Leeds .....	84½
Eastern Counties .....	9½	Midland Counties .....	76
Edinburgh and Glasgow .....	53½	Ditto Quarter Shares .....	24
Great North of England .....	83	North Midland .....	66
Great Western .....	91½	Ditto New .....	34
Ditto New .....	63	South Eastern and Dover .....	28½
Ditto Fifties .....	11	South Western .....	63
London and Birmingham .....	180½	Ditto New .....	10½
Ditto Quarter Shares .....	31½		

## MARKETS.

## GRAIN, MARK LANE, May 30.

There was a good show of land-carriage samples of wheat, the quality and condition mostly fine. The best runs were taken off pretty freely at last week's currency, but there was much less doing in free or bonded foreign than on the previous week, when some large sales were effected of floating cargoes, at prices rather above the home consumption value of similar qualities, with the addition of the present rate of duty.

Barley is inquired for, for grinding, and being scarce, rather more money is obtained. A fair supply of oats, with a few small cargoes of foreign; the trade has been lively, and rather more money has been obtained. Foreign oats in bond sell freely. In beans and peas no alteration.

Wheat, Red New	50 to 57	Malt, Ordinary	45 to 53	Beans, Old	34 to 37
Fine	56 to 63	Pale	56 to 60	Harrow	30 to 33
White	52 to 60	Peas, Hog	27 to 29	Oats, Feed	18 to 20
Fine	64 to 70	Maple	31 to 34	Fine	21 to 23
Rye	32 to 36	Boilers	33 to 36	Poland	22 to 26
Barley	22 to 26	Beans, Ticks	27 to 30	Potato	18 to 22
Malting	30 to 32				

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR MAY 27. AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF SIX WEEKS. DUTY ON FOREIGN CORN FOR THE PRESENT WEEK.

Wheat	60s. 9d.	Wheat	60s. 5d.	Wheat	12s. 0d.
Barley	25 11	Barley	26 10	Barley	10 0
Oats	19 5	Oats	19 4	Oats	7 0
Rye	32 4	Rye	32 2	Rye	10 6
Beans	31 7	Beans	31 4	Beans	10 6
Peas	31 4	Peas	31 1	Peas	10 6

## SEEDS.

Linseed, English, sowing	50s. to 55s. per qr.	Coriander	10s. to 16s. per wt.
Baltic, ditto	—	Old	16 18
Ditto, crushing	46 to 50	Canary, new	72 to 75
Mediter. and Odessa	50 to 52	Extra	78 to 85
Clover, English, red	65 to 85 per cwt.	Caraway, old	50 to 52
Ditto, white	—	New	48 to 52
Flemish, red	65 to 85	Mustard, brown, new	10 to 14 pr bush.
Ditto, white	—	White	9 to 13
New Hamburg, red	61 to 81	Trefoil	16 to 35
Ditto, white	—	Rye grass, English	30 to 42
Old Hamburg, red	55 to 75	Scotch	18 to 40
Ditto, white	—	Tares, winter	— per qr.
French, red	71 to 91	New	4 to 5 pr bush.
Ditto, white	—	Rapeseed, English, new	36l. to 40l. pr last
Hempseed, small	36 to 41	Linseed cakes, English	10l. 10s. to 11l.
Large	46 to 48	Foreign	8l. to 8l. 10s.
		Rapeseed cakes	6l. 5s. to 6l. 10s.

## PROVISIONS, LONDON, May 30.

Irish butter did not vary in demand or value. Foreign sold at reduced rates: Friesland, 96s. to 98s.; Kiel, 90s. to 94s.; Holland, 88s. to 94s.; Leer, 80s. to 81s. In bacon we have no change; the demand continues limited, the transactions trifling, and prices not well supported. The rates current are 48s. to 52s., according to quality and size, landed and on board. Bale and tierce middles dull at our last quotations. Lard in slow request; prices not varied. Hams in fair sale at 54s. to 66s. Beef and pork continue dull.

## HOPS, BOROUGH, May 30.

For a long time past there has not been so much excitement witnessed in the hop market, and, as far as present appearances indicate, not without some cause; for although the bines in Kent, Sussex, and Worcester are said to be both healthy and strong, and growing rapidly, there is such an attack of flea and fly, as many as fifty having been found on a single leaf, that the holders are all indisposed to part with their limited stocks, even at very advanced rates. From the uncertainty which prevails, all qualities have risen materially. The duty, which last week was laid at £150,000, dropped on Saturday to £115,000, and is now called only £110,000.

## BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, May 30.

Owing to the weather having become warm, there was a very heavy inquiry for beef, and, in order to effect sales, an abatement of 2d. per 8lbs. was submitted to. The numbers of sheep being large, the demand for them was extremely inactive, and there was a decline of from 2d. to 4d. per 8lbs., and a large portion of the supply was turned out unsold. Calves were in great supply, and heavy inquiry. The pork trade was very inanimate at previous currencies.

Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

Beef	3s. 0d. to 4s. 2d.	Veal	4s. 0d. to 5s. 0d.
Mutton	3 4 .. 4 2	Pork	4 0 .. 5 0
Lamb	5s. 0d. to 6s. 0d.		

## HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
Friday	507	9,460	355
Monday	2,770	27,150	137

## NEWGATE and LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, May 30.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.

Inferior Beef	3s. 0d. to 3s. 2d.	Inferior Mutton	3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.
Middling ditto	3 2 .. 3 4	Middling ditto	3 6 .. 3 8
Prime large ditto	3 4 .. 3 6	Prime ditto	3 8 .. 4 0
Prime small ditto	3 6 .. 3 8	Veal	4 0 .. 5 0
Large Pork	4 0 .. 4 8	Small Pork	4 10 .. 5 0
Lamb	5s. 6d. to 6s. 6d.		

## POTATOES, SOUTHWARK, May 30.

The supply of potatoes to the water side has been very limited, and consists of the following:—from Yorkshire, 205 tons; Scotland, 480; Devons, 385; Guernsey, 110; Kent and Essex, 80; total, 1260 tons.

York Reds ..... per ton 80s. to 100s. Wisbeach ..... per ton —s. to —s.

Scotch ..... 80 .. 90 Jersey and Guernsey Blues .. 60 .. 70

Iri-h ..... — .. — Jersey Whites ..... — .. —

Devons ..... 80 .. 90 Kent, Essex, and Suffolk Whites 65 .. 70

## WOOL, May 30.

During the present week there have been rather more sales made than the previous week, to supply the immediate wants of the manufacturers. In prices we do not quote any alteration.

Down ewes and wethers	0s. 0d. to 0s. 9d.	Half-bred hogs	0s. 0d. to 0s. 11d.
Down teggs	0 0 .. 0 11	Flannel wool	0 8 1/2 .. 0 11 1/2
Down wethers	0 0 .. 0 9 1/2	Blanket wool	0 5 .. 0 7 1/2
Down hogs	0 0 .. 0 9 1/2		

## HAY, SMITHFIELD, May 28.—At per load of 36 trusses.

Coarse Meadow Hay	50s. to 70s.	New Clover Hay	—s. to —s.
New ditto	— .. —	Old ditto	80 .. 115
Useful old ditto	75 .. 85	Oat Straw	36 .. 38
Fine Upland and Rye Grass	86 .. 90	Wheat Straw	38 .. 40

## COAL EXCHANGE, May 30.

Stewart's, 20s. 6d.; B. Hetton's, 20s. 3d.; Haswell, 20s.; Lambton's, 20s. Ships arrived this week, 141.

## GROCERIES, TUESDAY, MAY 31.

TEA.—The public sales still progress with considerable heaviness. Prices have with much difficulty been supported, but a very small quantity has found buyers. Common Congou, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d. per lb.

COFFEE.—There was a fair business transacted in coffee for home consumption; sales were made privately at 71s. 6d. to 73s. for good; 73s. 6d. to 75s. for fine; and very superior middling plantation sort, 92s.; and company's Java, 50s. to 51s. for good ordinary.

SUGAR.—The market for West India sugar presented a quiet appearance; for refining purposes a fair demand existed, and 60s. to 61s. 6d. paid for good and fine greyish brown Jamaica. At public sale 150 hds new Barbadoes were offered; the bid-dings were languid, and prices declined 6d. per cwt. Nearly the whole, however, found buyers: viz., fine bright yellow at 67s. 6d. to 68s. 6d.; good, 65s. to 67s.; mid., 64s. to 65s. 6d.; low mid. of a greyish complexion, 62s. 6d. to 63s. 6d. per cwt.

TALLOW.—The demand continues very dull, but prices have been firmly sustained. P.Y.C. on the spot, 48s. to 48s. 6d.; and to arrive in the last three months of the year, 49s. per cwt.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

## MENTAL AND MORAL DIGNITY OF WOMAN.

In this Work the Author argues that the mental powers of Woman are equal, and her moral feelings superior, to those of Men.

"We trust this volume will obtain a wide circulation, for it cannot fail to do good."—*Nonconformist*.

"The writer is undoubtedly not one of the least able defenders of the claims of woman to a higher social and intellectual position."—*Westminster Review*.

"Mr Parsons' work is original. We cordially thank him for it, and most earnestly recommend it to our readers as a book likely to confer upon them great benefit."—*Northern Baptist*.

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"It displays in every part a strong vigorous mind; and justice will not be done to its author if it have not a speedy and extensive circulation."—*Christian Examiner*.

"If it requires, it will likewise recompense, a thoughtful perusal."—*Watchman*.

"The book cannot fail to do good."—*Revivalist*.

JOHN SNOW, London. Price 5s. 6d.

## PROTECTION! EASE AND COMFORT FOR TENDER FEET.

**HALL AND CO., Wellington-street, Strand, London.** Sole Patentees of the PANNUS CORIU, or LEATHER CLOTH BOOTS and SHOES for Ladies and Gentlemen. These articles have borne the test and received the approbation of all who have worn them. Such as are troubled with corns, bunions, gout, chilblains, or tenderness of feet from any other cause, will find them the softest and most comfortable ever invented: they never draw the feet or get hard, qualities which strongly recommend them to Merchants and Shippers for warm climates, where they are found easier and more durable than any other kind of shoes: they resemble the finest leather, and are cleaned with common blacking.

The material sold by the yard in any quantity. Also the much-improved Patent India-Rubber Goshes are light, durable, and perfectly waterproof: they protect the feet from damp and cold.

Hall and Co.'s Portable Waterproof Dresses claim the attention of all who are exposed to the wet. Ladies' Cardinal Cloaks with hoods, from 18s. Gentlemen's Dresses, comprising Cape, Overalls, and Hood, 21s.; the whole can be carried with convenience in the pocket.

The Shoes or Goshes can be fitted by sending a shoe, and the waterproof dresses by the height of the figure.

HALL and Co. beg to inform BOOT and SHOE MAKERS that they can be supplied with any quantity of the Pannus Corium, or Leather Cloth, from one yard and upwards, the cost of which can be sent by Post-office Order.

## THE PEOPLE'S RIGHTS, AND HOW TO GET THEM.

By the Rev. THOMAS SPENCER, M.A., Perpetual Curate of Hinton Charterhouse, near Bath, and formerly Fellow of St John's College, Cambridge.

Sold by JOHN GREEN, 121, Newgate Street, London.

**LETTER from Mr D. CUSSONS, Book-seller, Horncastle, Lincolnshire, to Messrs T. ROBERTS and Co., Proprietors of PARR'S LIFE PILLS, 9, Crane Court, Fleet Street, London.**

"Gentlemen—The following are a few of the cases of cure from taking OLD PARR'S wonderful medicine, that have occurred in this neighbourhood, and being immediately under my own observation, I can vouch for their accuracy, and shall be happy to answer inquiries from any persons who may desire further information."

"Mrs BLACKBURN, of Kirkby Bain, has for a length of time been labouring under great affliction, until her strength was nearly exhausted, but hearing of the extraordinary cures effected by PARR'S Pills, she sent to my shop for a box, which gave her great relief, and after taking two or three boxes more, to the astonishment of herself and neighbours, she was perfectly restored."

The Rev. Mr CLENTON, dissenting minister, of Horncastle, is taking Parr's Life Pills, and recommending them to all his friends. He says there is more real benefit in relieving and assisting the constitution in "OLD PARR'S," than any other medicine he ever took, and they have been of essential benefit to numbers of his friends who have tried them."

If I had time, and you had room for them, I could enumerate fifty cases which have come under my observation, quite equal to the above; but the increased sale of the medicine testifies the value set upon it in this neighbourhood.

"I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,  
"D. CUSSONS, Bookseller.  
"Horncastle, 28th Sept. 1841."

## CAUTION—BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.

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